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Thursday August 29 1996

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Chicago B 10.00	London US 2.00	Singapore R 1.00
Colombo B 10.00	London US 2.00	Sofia R 1.00
Dhaka B 10.00	London US 2.00	Taipei R 1.00
Dublin B 10.00	London US 2.00	Tokyo R 1.00
Frankfurt B 10.00	London US 2.00	Toronto R 1.00
Hong Kong B 10.00	London US 2.00	Warsaw R 1.00
Islamabad B 10.00	London US 2.00	Wellington R 1.00
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The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
48,544


Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Ron Hubbard's followers launch TV drive

Pre-packet
Scientology



The women who fall for bodyguards



Shock tactics:
a new way to predict earthquakes

G2 page 12/13

Debts row splits Labour Party in key constituency



Activists say leadership stifling debate on candidate's record

Soumas Mhine
Labour Editor

Fabian Hamilton... Rejects 'smear campaign'

THE Labour hierarchy was last night accused of stifling debate about the business record of a would-be parliamentary candidate with a history of company failures and court-enforced debts.

Internal controversy has erupted again in the key marginal constituency of Leeds North East, where the Labour leadership last year over-

turned the selection of a left-wing lawyer, Liz Davies. The row is over Fabian Hamilton, a Tony Blair-supporting Leeds councillor who is regarded as the favourite for the re-run selection on Sunday.

Leading constituency members - including former supporters of Ms Davies - have assembled a dossier of court and company documents which, they insist, show Mr Hamilton is unfit to be their MP. Leaked correspondence confirms that national and regional officials have inter-

vened to block discussion about his financial affairs at party meetings.

Mr Hamilton last night accused his constituency critics of running a "disgraceful smear campaign" against him to boost the fortunes of the left-wing candidate, Pam Tatlow, and take their revenge against the party leadership over the Davies affair. "I have never done anything illegal or immoral and have nothing to hide," he said.

The dispute follows local selection battles in Swindon, Exeter and Glasgow Govan which have been fuelled by the tensions over the direction taken by Mr Blair's leadership.

county court in seven years.

Mr Hamilton, who is chairman of education on Leeds council, said last night that the two company liquidations had been the result of the recession and debts, and that he had "got into serious personal debt" because he had put all his personal funds into trying to save his businesses.

Susanna Diegel, managing director of Simba Print, one of Mr Hamilton's creditors, said yesterday he should not take any public role. Jane Young, vice-chairwoman of Roundhay - one of the four Labour Party - said: "They're saying this is a left-wing plot. But I'm a moder-



£20 fee casts royal couple asunder

John Ezard
and Owen Bennett

The first divorce of a British royal in 100 years became legal quietly yesterday, with only a few signs of the watershed it marks in British constitutional and public life.

Fifteen years and 30 days after their wedding at St Paul's, the marriage of Prince Charles and Princess Diana reached its close less than a mile away at the High Court in London.

The instrument was decree absolute - number 5,023, evidence of the fact that they are hardly alone in their misfortune. It put them finally asunder in 170 words.

After the estimated £15 million divorce settlement, the final reckoning was less expensive. In return for the standard fee of £20, Robin West, chief clerk to the court's Family Division, issued the decree.

As at their wedding up the road, every detail of the divorce was subject to scrutiny. Somerset House staff recorded that the marriage ended at 10.28am and that it was the 5,023rd decree absolute processed this year.

Copies of the historic document were later made available for £1 each, an unofficial souvenir to add to the royal mugs, brochures and plaques produced for the marketing of the marriage in 1981.

Six weeks after the divorce was granted, the certificate records: "And no cause having been shown, it is hereby certified that the said decree was on the 28th day of August 1996 made final and absolute and that the said marriage was thereby dissolved."

Charles remained behind the walls of Balmoral all day. Elsewhere in the family's summer holiday, there was a tendency to seek even greater privacy by taking to the hills.

The Queen went riding alone by the river Dee. The Duke of Edinburgh went fishing alone on a trout loch; prudent escapes from morning television bulletins which were leading on a mildy jarring gesture by Diana.

She turned up at a long-range venue to the English National Ballet wearing her wedding and engagement rings, watched by a crowd which happened to contain an instant expert on such conduct.

"It's not a sign of letting go," said David Cohen, author of *Body Language in Relationships*. "I think it's an un-



Princess Diana wearing her wedding and engagement rings at an English National Ballet lunch yesterday. PHOTOGRAPH: Dan Grant

happy thing to wear your wedding and engagement rings on the day of your divorce."

Laird, however, another expert, David Williamson, of *Debutts*, said: "If they are nice rings, and she likes them, there is no reason why she should not continue to wear them. There is no form or style on this."

Inside the English National Ballet, a television inter-

Titanic still mass grave say experts

John Ezard

THE 84-year-old wreck of the Titanic is still very likely to be a mass grave, with human remains scattered in and around the ship, British scientists said yesterday.

Their finding emerged as the shadow shipping minister, Glenda Jackson, attacked efforts to lift part of the liner's hull to the surface. Last night tourists paying up to \$5,000 each watched as a second attempt was made.

The tourists - on two cruise ships containing casinos - saw the wreck site 420 miles off Newfoundland brilliantly floodlit on closed-circuit television.

A first effort to raise the hull section, complete with portholes, failed on Tuesday when a flotation balloon did not inflate.

The new scientific opinions, from a survey of British forensic and oceanographic specialists, provide evidence that the expedition is "grave-robbing", according to the British Titanic Society.

Six out of seven specialists, who were sent written questions by the society's quarterly bulletin, replied that it was "probable" that bone and teeth fragments of some of the 1,532 victims had survived in and around the ship.

More intact remains could be in cabins and sealed areas like cool rooms and strong rooms.

Southampton University oceanography centre said: "There are almost certainly some remains in the immediate area." Professor Laurence Garey, of Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, said: "Boney remains are probably still there."

The New York company behind this week's cruise, RMS Titanic Inc, has already sold coal collected from the debris around the ship.

It defends itself against charges of grave-robbing by stressing that it does not plan to breach the two main hull sections of the wreck.

Yesterday the bulletin editor, Brian Titchmarsh, the naval historian, said: "Our survey means that the expedition is most certainly grave-robbing."

Son of Beefy follows family line - and length - in debut

John Durren
Sports Correspondent

BOUNDING into the ground late, throwing down a few looseballs and then with his seventh ball taking the wicket of a former England captain with a legside full toss, Liam Botham, the 19-year-old son of Ian, yesterday entered the family business - first class cricket - with a starting five for 67 for Hampshire.

"I went over to wish him

all the best and this is the way he repays me," said Mike Gatting, Botham's first victim. "Ian was got me out in 15 years, but then his boy gets the out in seven balls. Good luck to him."

Liam's debut was typically dramatic. He was 15 minutes late for the match, having been erroneously sent to Southampton for a second XI game. He was further delayed by a traffic accident on the M27 and arrived with 12 balls already bowled.

"I suppose people will say this is a typical Botham start," said Botham. "But I am Liam, not Ian, and I intend to make my own way. There was an element of good fortune about the wickets, but they all count. My dad was accused of the same thing, but he liked to think he bowled people out."

His father, who missed his son's unexpected debut, was notorious for picking up wickets off terrible balls and would have recognised the manner of some of yesterday's dismissals.

After Gatting came John Carr (nick to keeper off short wideish bad ball), then Richard Johnson (caught and bowled off full toss), then Richard Fay (soft catch to covers) and finally Phil Tufnell (caught behind, but refused to walk he was so angry).

In fact, Liam made a far more auspicious start than his father. Ian's first-class debut was at The Parks against Oxford University on May 11, 1974, where he was out for two and had figures of nought for 10. His first wicket, 16 days later,

was M.S.T. Dunstan, a Gloucestershire tallender trapped lbw for 10, with Botham posting poor bowling figures of one for 51.

The Botham legend was born two months later in a limited overs match against Hampshire. Somerset were way behind at 113 for eight. Botham came in and for his first ball had three teeth knocked out by Andy Roberts. After a glass of water he resumed play and slugged Somerset to victory.



Inside	Britain	World News	Finance	Sport
Prison Service	Prison Service	Prison Service	Prison Service	Prison Service
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The Guardian International & The Observer Travel Bag

This classic navy travel bag branded with the Guardian International and Observer logo is constructed from a water resistant, durable PVC. The many notable features include a heavy duty shoulder strap, carry handle and double ended zipper compartments. (60x30x25cm)

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Sketch

Robotic Hillary leaves them flat



Jonathan Freedland

In San Diego we got the Oprah Winfrey Show. In Chicago we got Jackson...

each delegate clutched to their lap. "Welcome Home Hillary..."

Labour demands watchdog inquiry into GEC deal as shareholders fume over 'too easy' bonus clause

£10m pay stirs fat cat row

ABOUT yesterday accused engineering and electronics giant GEC of flouting rules aimed at stopping excessive pay...

"mockery" of the Greenbury committee's recommendations on top pay and perks.

pay and pensions advice body, said the terms and conditions should have been included in the report...

said last night: "The company has done the right thing in disclosing the terms of the contract..."

reach eight times his salary. Shareholders are particularly angry at the performance criteria attached to the long-term bonus...



George Simpson... tempted from top job at Lucas

Arafat in showdown with Israel

PLO president says Israel has 'declared war' on Palestinians

THE Palestinian legislative council yesterday called for a halt to all contacts with Israel, hours after President Yasser Arafat had accused the Jewish state of declaring war on the Palestinians...



Yasser Arafat arrives for a crisis meeting of the Palestinian legislative council yesterday

Kidnap accused is freed in error

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

A MAN awaiting trial for kidnapping was among more than 500 inmates freed from prison in the 'early release' fiasco...

First night

Pessimist pins his hopes on women

Michael Billington

Time and the Room Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh

In Germany, and throughout most of Europe, Botho Strauss is big news: 400 critics, myself included, lately attended the Munich premiere of his Itaska...

reality. "In this life," says one character, "all we've got is our memories. All the rest is looking through the window until we see the face of the earth..."

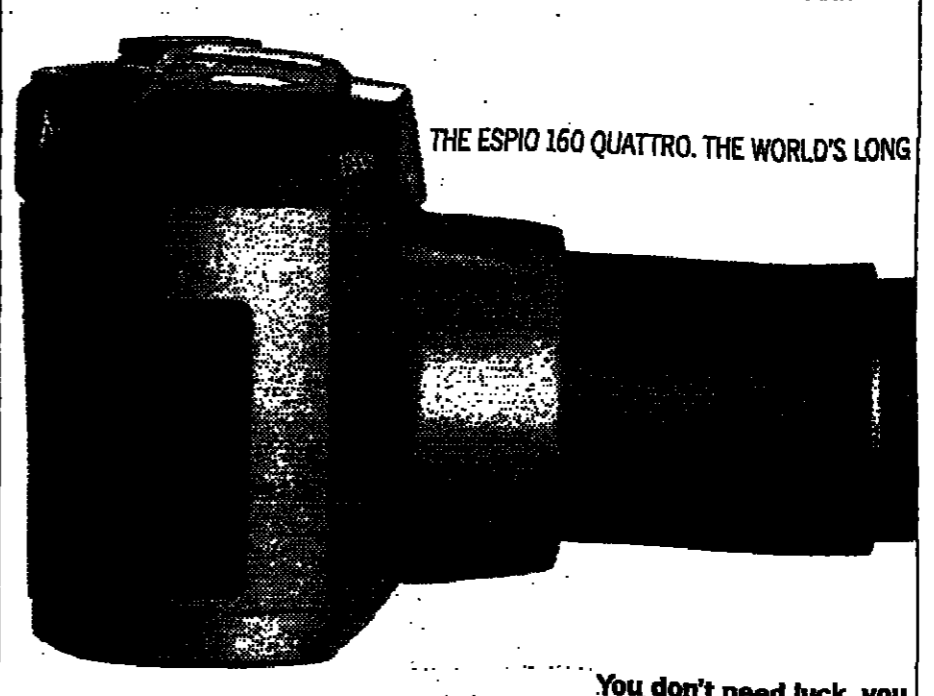
TV switch to the big screen

Nicholas Barnister Technology Editor

DUTCH electronics giant Philips yesterday unveiled what it hopes will be the biggest revolution in television—a large flat TV screen which can be hung on the wall like a painting.

"When the TV is not in use the screen can be used to carry large pictures of anything from your favourite snaps or a Gaudin painting..."

changed colour when electrically charged. At first the screen will be connected by wire to a box containing the main electronics...



THE ESPHO 160 QUATTRO. THE WORLD'S LONG

You don't need luck, you

New gene may be breakthrough in battle against some cancers

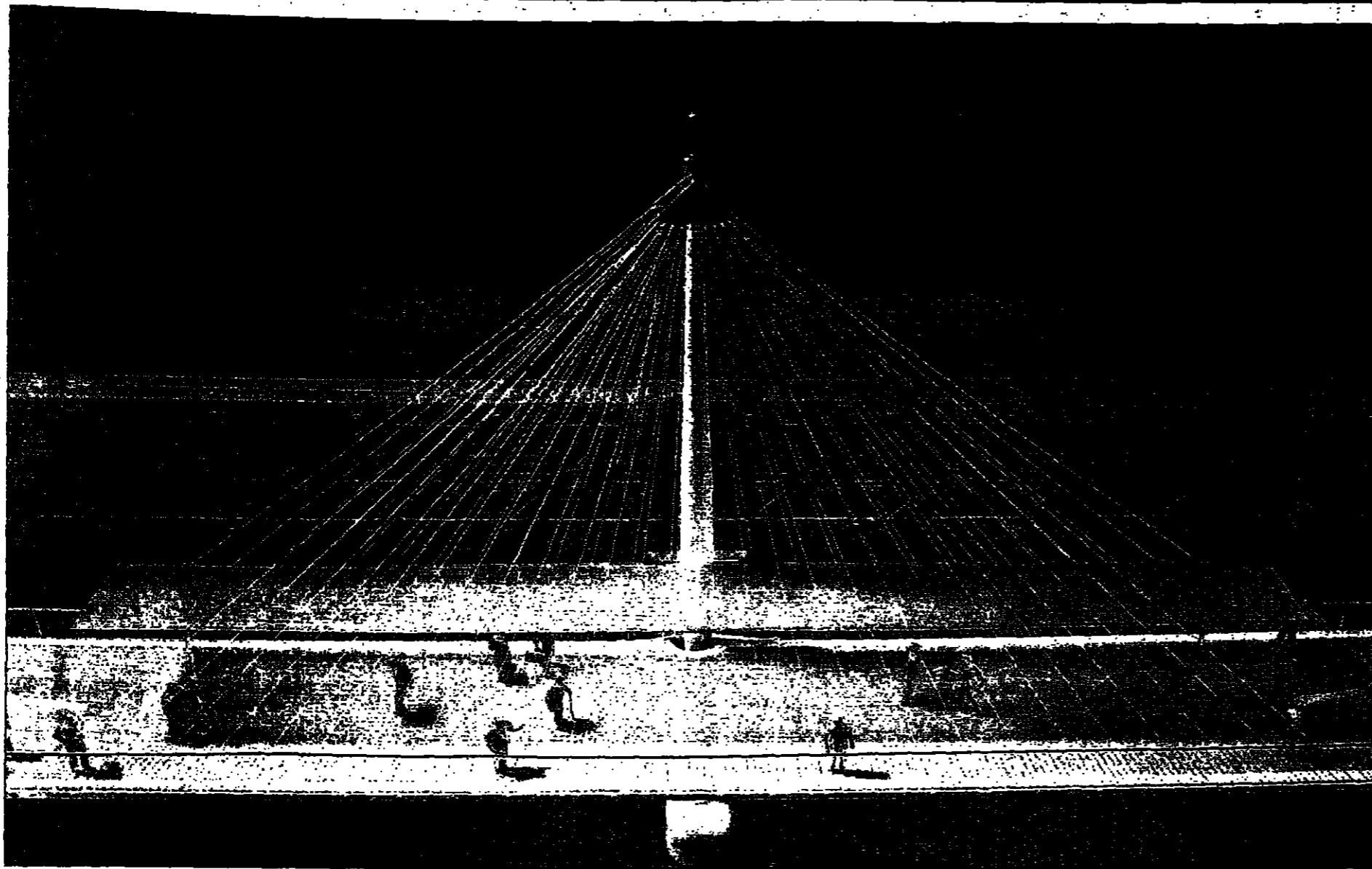
Jane Alford

THE discovery of a virus-attacking gene which could lead to a breakthrough in the battle against some forms of cancer and other viral diseases is announced by scientists today.

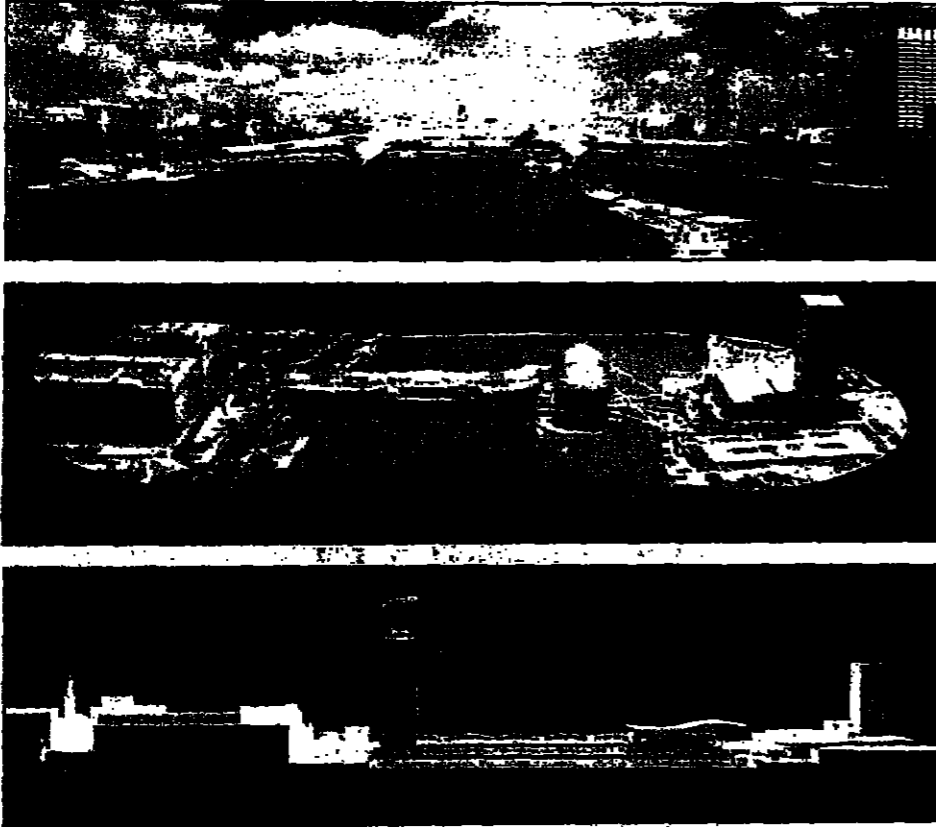
vide new clues as to how certain viruses, called retroviruses, cause diseases such as leukaemia and AIDS.

سكان الوطن العربي

Maev Kennedy on the stretches of imagination creating a futuristic riverside for London



A section of the design by architects Lifschutz Davidson which is intended to replace the Hungerford pedestrian bridge between Charing Cross and Waterloo. PHOTOGRAPH: PHILIP BIER PHOTOGRAPHY



Three of the designs for potential habitable bridges, which the public will vote on: top, the Future Systems entry; middle, the Branson Coates entry; bottom, the entry by Antoine Grumbach. PICTURES: ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

'Seaside pier' bridge to replace Thames eyesore

LONDON was offered a broad sweep of new bridges across the Thames yesterday, although only one is likely to get off the drawing board — a £15 million gleaming white steel "seaside pier" intended as a replacement for the Victorian Hungerford footbridge.

"This bridge is for use, for fun and for getting people back to the river," Alex Lifschutz said yesterday.

The present footbridge is one of the capital's most heavily used eyesores, carrying up to 2,000 people an hour. The original Hungerford bridge was built by Brunel in 1845 for pedestrians, carts and river boat loading. It was a commercial failure, and in 1865 was replaced by the present railway bridge, with the footbridge slung alongside.

Hijack passengers tell of 'bomb' terror

Alan Watkins and Christopher Elliott

A PASSENGER on the hijacked Sudanese Airbus gave a detailed account last night of the terror that broke out among the 160 passengers when they thought one of the men had a bomb.

which began on Monday afternoon. One male crew member was taken to hospital but the other, a passenger, did not require treatment. The passengers are expected to continue their journey today.

There was still no clear indication as to the identities of the hijackers, who are all being held at Harlow police station, or their motive other than the early indications

showed signs of sympathy for the Iraqis' plight yesterday, while others were keen to see them returned to Iraq.

Death in prison hospital for the hijacker who went home

Christopher Elliott

YASSIN MEMBAR knows only too well the risks any hijacker faces on return to the country from which he was fleeing.



Yassin Membar: one of five who seized Tanzanian jet

Using an imitation gun and candlesticks made to look like dynamite the hijackers forced the pilot to fly to Nairobi, Jeddah, and Athens. Fourteen hostages had been freed before the aircraft reached Stansted.

EST ZOOM COMPACT. need a PENTAX G2 page 7

Calling it tired and worn out is like saying you played a Test series last year, so why are you bothering to do the same this year? It is not a tacky game show. It is an intelligent word game.

Quit Ulster, loyalists tell hardliners

David Sharrock, Ireland Correspondent

THE loyalist paramilitary leadership last night moved decisively to stamp out growing dissent over its ceasefire by giving two hardliners 72 hours to get out of Ulster or face "summary justice".

Last night's statement reads: "The CLMC having concluded an ongoing investigation issue the following directive. As from midnight tonight Mr Billy Wright has 72 hours to leave Ulster. Mr Alec Kerr must remain at all times in isolation whilst in custody. Upon his release he must leave Ulster within 72 hours."

Failure by either man to conform with this directive will result in summary justice for their treasonable and subversive activities. Anyone supporting these persons in any way or their actions will be similarly dealt with.

The move comes amid increasing fears that the Ulster Volunteer Force is about to end its ceasefire and appears to mark the climax of a potentially explosive rift between the Belfast leadership — which favours maintaining the ceasefire — and mid-Ulster elements which claim considerable grassroots support.

At seventy one Honor Blackman is full of life. If only she could say the same about her men.

In this week's Radio Times read all about Honor Blackman. Her men. Her father. Her life since The Avengers. And her role today as Britain's sexiest grandma. RadioTimes IT'S NOT WHAT YOU EXPECT.

Armed robbers net £2m in raid on security van

Duncan Campbell
Crime Correspondent

A GANG of armed robbers yesterday escaped with £2 million in cash in the second London security van attack in less than a week.

The robbery is the latest example of an increase in attacks on security vans by professional criminals. They struck at 5pm on Tuesday as the van returned to the Security Express depot on an industrial estate at Barking, east London.

Two men held a handgun to the head of one of the guards while another guard was made to unload bags of cash believed to total about £2 million.

The money was put into green plastic wheelie-bins and pushed by the robbers into a blue Renault van.

The four robbers, all masked, drove off in the van — leaving a stolen articulated lorry blocking the entrance to the industrial estate.

A stolen Land Rover, with its engine still running, was found at the depot.

The robbers abandoned their van at the Tesco car park in Barking after wheeling the money into another vehicle and escaping.

No trace has been found of the weapons or the cash bags. One of the robbers was described as about 5ft 2in and heavily built.

Detective Inspector Frederick May of the Flying Squad

is leading the investigation. A Security Express spokesman said: "It is a sad fact that the environment in which we work is becoming increasingly dangerous and criminals will stop at nothing for money."

Last week, an unarmed uniformed officer, PC Clive Norman, was shot in the leg by masked men attempting to rob a Security Express van delivering to a NatWest bank in Stockwell, south London. Police are not linking the two attacks at this stage.

The latest robbery is an indication that experienced professional criminals still regard security vans as vulnerable targets.

Many of the previous generation of armed robbers have moved into the relatively safer world of drug dealing and fraud.

So far this year the Flying Squad — which investigates armed robberies on security vehicles, banks, post offices, building societies and betting shops — has arrested 28 people in connection with attacks on security vans.

Police sources indicate that while other forms of armed robbery in the Metropolitan police area are down, there has been an increase in robberies of security vans.

The Flying Squad has a 30 per cent success rate in catching robbers.

They investigated 750 armed crimes last year but the majority were not as highly planned as the Barking raid.



Anthony Neilson preparing his production of Hoover Bag, part of next month's London New Play Festival. The audience will be wired up and monitored for cardio vascular fluctuation. It is sponsored by the Centre for Cardio Theatrical Research

Party strategists unbowed by 'demon eyes' rebuke Tories will still play the devil with Blair

Michael White
Political Editor

UNAPOLOGETIC Conservative election strategists last night made plain that they will not abandon their "demon eyes" campaign against Labour despite a ruling by the Advertising Standards Authority that Tony Blair had been depicted in a "distasteful and sinister" way.

However, the authority rejected complaints, from churches, as well as Labour, that the Blair ad — printed in three Sunday newspapers — had caused offence by attributing "satanic qualities" to the Labour leader.

It was a view promoted by Labour's campaign strategist, Peter Mandelson, MP, who last night called the outcome a "serious compromise" that would be welcomed by voters "who

do not want abusive, negative advertising brought into British politics".

The authority told Tory HQ not to repeat the bright red "demon eyes" poster because it had not sought Mr Blair's permission to use his picture "in an adverse or offensive way" — a complaint upheld in commercial advertising in recent years.

It was the first such ruling since the authority's remit was amended in 1993 to let it pass judgement on political ads, and some senior Tories privately predicted that both the authority and the Labour Party would come to regret the precedent as a serious infringement of freedom of political speech.

Publicly Labour was delighted and the Tories claimed a "score-draw". But the Conservatives say they will continue to use the curtain and "demon eyes" device

in future New Labour, New Danger campaigning.

They cite Clare Short's "dark forces" remarks about the Labour leader's entourage to justify the Blair ad which cost them £25,000 and generated — party officials gleefully claim — £5 million worth of free publicity.

Voters can expect much more negative advertising in the weeks ahead. Labour has already clashed with the Daily Mail over its reports that Nissan car executives may withdraw further investment from the UK if Labour wins. Nissan's chief, Ian Gibson, wrote to Mr Blair saying the firm had "no negative feelings" about a win.

Last night Mr Blair challenged John Major to tell his party HQ to "clean up its act", and said the ad should never have been sanctioned. It was "naughty and vicious", Mr Blair said on Channel 4 News.

Money pours in but Tory finances remain fragile

Michael White looks at Conservative hype about being 'back in the black'

A £7 MILLION surge in donations to Conservative Party funds in the past year still leaves Tory finances in a far more fragile pre-election state than predicted before publication of the audited accounts last night.

Despite pre-publication hype to the effect that the party was "back in the black" for the first time since the 1992 election, Conservative strategists still owe over £8.5 million, mostly to local Tory associations and to companies or private individuals such as the Yorkshire textile magnate, Sir Graham Kirchan, who have made interest-free loans.

Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, said in a statement that a revenue surplus for the third year running showed "an increasing number of successful British companies and entrepreneurs" realised how important a continuing Conservative government would be.

The party was now "ready to fight and win the next election, whenever it comes", he said. Labour this week resorted to professional telephone fund-raising to offset the expected £20 million Tory war chest, and a Media Week survey today suggests equal spending on advertising so far this year.

But the Tories still have vital advantages. Yesterday they admitted to a £615,000 deficit, which prompted Labour's campaigns co-ordinator, Brian Wilson, MP, to ask where last year's £11.4 million overdraft had disappeared to.

"The Conservative Party's refusal to reveal funding sources remains one of the great democratic deficits in British public life," he said. In fact, much of the deficit has simply been shifted from banks to private loans.

Cash-rich local associations have loaned £5.5 million, repayable on demand, which pays interest on past debts, but not capital — a "black hole" of up to £19 million mostly owed to the Royal Bank of Scotland,

whose chairman, Lord Younger, is a former cabinet minister. That debt is largely shifted elsewhere.

"I hope that these loans will end up as donations or gifts. But many associations were reluctant to give us money to put into the black hole... they have put us on probation," a senior official said yesterday.

With an income of £18.82 million in the year ending in March — up from £12.7 million last year — Dr Mawhinney and his deputy, Michael Trend, MP, are bullish that they will have enough support to fight the coming election.

As usual, Tory officials are coy about sources and — in contrast to far more detailed Labour accounts due this weekend, and those of the Liberal Democrats — decline to identify individual donors, some of

'Much of the deficit has simply been shifted from banks to private loans'

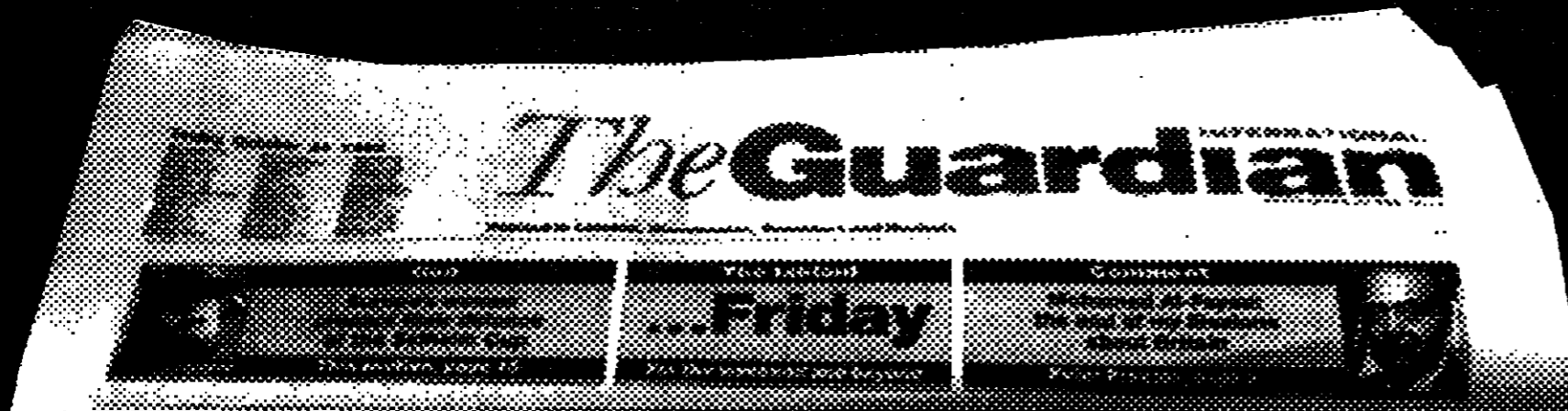
whom only surface via the courts.

Asil Nadir, fugitive Polly Peck tycoon, gave at least £400,000 which auditors have been unable to reclaim despite routine assertions that illegal funds are always returned. The hierarchy is usually successful in toughing it out.

By cutting costs of running headquarters, the party has offset past extravagances, though spending is creeping up as polling day approaches. Conferences and publicity rose from £400,000 to £1.6 million and the number of professional agents, down to a perilous 34 in 1995, is now 113.

Claims that donations in June and July have eliminated the remaining £1.9 million of bank debt recorded in the audited accounts are offset by the admission that debts of up to £8.5 million still exist.

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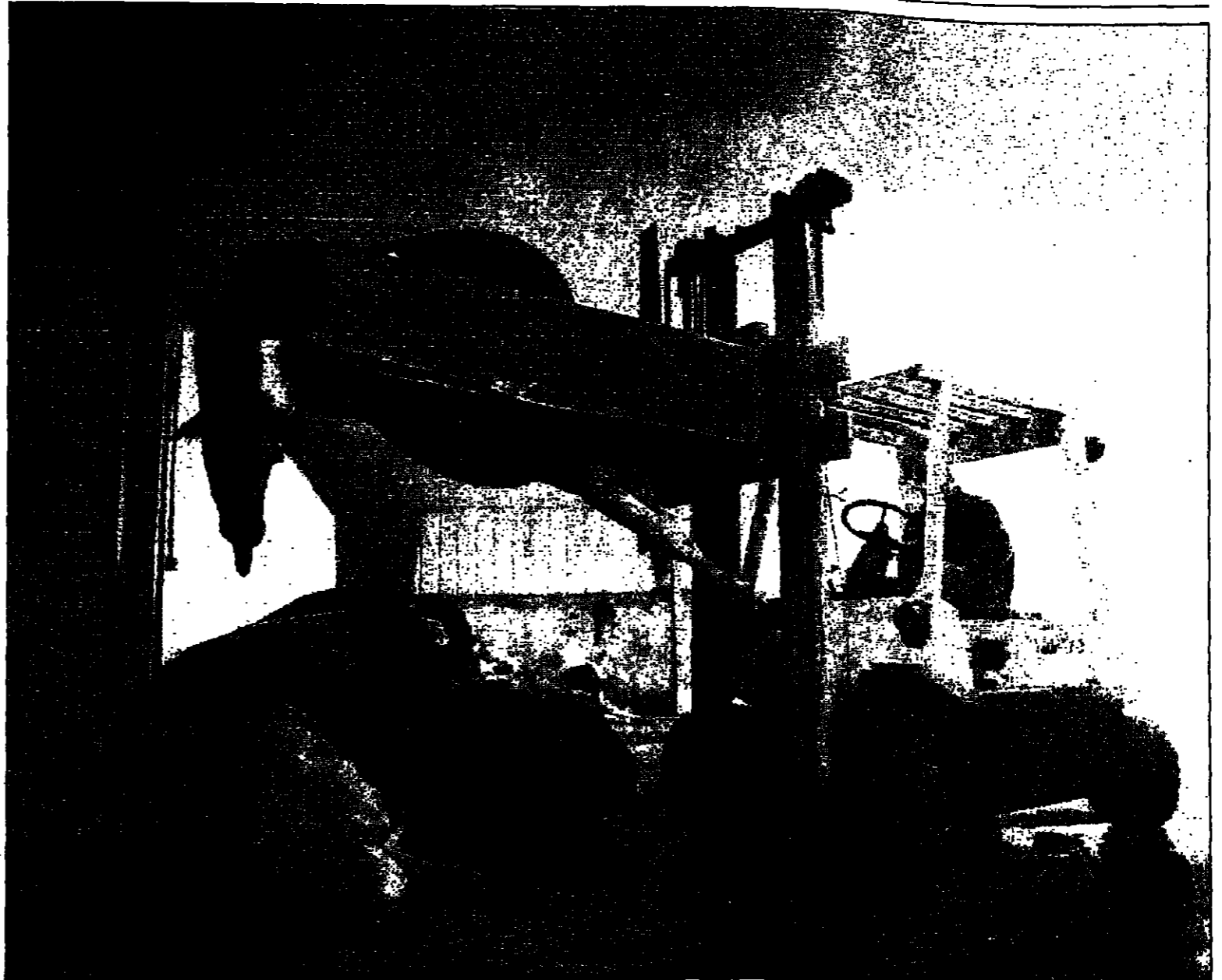
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Stemming the flow of infection



After the slaughter... BSE-infected cattle being piled up at an incinerator, but the risk to public health still remains PHOTOGRAPH: TOBY MELVILLE

Mad cow disease is on the wane and could die out by the year 2001, say scientists. But figures produced by their latest research could have 'a considerable public health significance'. Tim Radford reports on a new embarrassment for Government

700,000 BSE cattle 'fed to humans'

MORE than 700,000 cattle with bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) may have been turned into food for humans by the end of 1995, scientists estimate today.

The figure, they say, could be of "considerable public health significance". It is also another embarrassment for the Government. Agriculture ministers and health experts claimed for a decade — and continued to claim until March 20 this year — that British beef was safe and humans were not at risk.

But now scientists on whom the Government relies for advice on the Aids epidemic confirm what opponents of the Ministry of Agriculture have been saying for at least three years: that throughout the BSE decade, sick cattle have been slaughtered for food.

An international team led by Professor Roy Anderson, director of the Centre for the Epidemiology of Infectious Disease, used techniques developed to calculate the progress of HIV infection in Britain. The team turned to BSE after the announcement of 12 cases of a new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) which had close similarities with BSE. The intention was to help predict the impact of various culling policies.

What they report in the science magazine Nature today is good and bad news for the Government. They say

the BSE epidemic will fade rapidly: more than 90 per cent of all the victims have already fallen sick and died. They predict that — in the absence of culling — another 6,950 cases of BSE have yet to be diagnosed.

But contaminated feed continued to infect animals until mid-1994: since then, they believe, new infections have passed from mother to calf. The scientists calculated a mean incubation period of five years for BSE. But beef cattle are normally slaughtered within three years. So the team had to make estimates of the number of animals that might have gone to the abattoir with BSE, but not yet the symptoms.

Any infectious tissue, they

think would have been in the brain, spinal cord, tonsils, eyes, thymus and other organs. Use of these in human food was prohibited seven years ago.

About 446,000 infected animals would have been slaughtered for consumption before the specified bovine offal ban at the end of 1989, said Dr Christl Donnelly, one of the team. "If there is any risk, it is believed that those would be the most infectious tissues. Then there were an additional 280,000 after this time up to the end of 1995. That contributes about 730,000 animals to date, but of those you'd be most concerned about the ones before the specified offal ban," she said.

New and mysterious cases of CJD — in British people

much younger than normal, and following a different course towards death — shook the Government and triggered a Europe-wide alarm when they were announced on March 20. But scientists still cannot say whether these represent a new epidemic in humans. One problem is that nobody knows how infectious the predicted 730,000 slaughtered cattle might have been. Studies

of the progress of the disease take years, and are still not completed.

Dr Donnelly thinks that the infectivity of undiagnosed animals would be very low for more than half the incubation period; however, the potential to infect would then rise drastically towards the end. "We can say that in order to substantially reduce the number of cases of BSE that we will see — 50 per cent of what we would see without culling — you need to cull a million cattle to the end of 1996."

This would also have to be accompanied by "maternal targeting" — the search for and slaughter of the offspring of cows which were diagnosed as having BSE, because most new cases, the researchers believe, will arise from infection

at birth or suckling. This too is a blow for the Government: until this month, ministry officials have held that the only source of infection was by contaminated feed.

David Skegg, of the University of Otago, New Zealand, says: "The continual retreat from entrenched positions about BSE has damaged the credibility of science as well as of politicians." A look at epidemiological research so far "leaves one with the impression of solid work by too few scientists involving too few studies and too few animals. The portfolio of laboratory research has been no more timely or adequate... The BSE saga should be a warning to all countries not to skimp on research into emerging problems."

'Solid work by too few scientists with too few studies and too few animals'

Ban on protein feed had 'an immediate and lasting impact'

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DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION: Show of party unity secures nomination as president's opinion poll lead increases

Right turn puts Clinton centre stage

Martin Walker in Chicago

His authority over his unified party complete. Bill Clinton's rightward march rewarded last night with his formal nomination as presidential candidate by the Democratic Party's most liberal standard-bearers.

President Clinton was nominated by Senator Chris Dodd — the party chairman who called his welfare reform "unconscionable". Then the president's centrist political strategy was resoundingly defended by Jesse Jackson, Senator Teddy Kennedy and former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, the old leaders of the Democrats' supplanted left wing.

Ramming home Mr Clinton's determination to command the centre, party officials confirmed yesterday that he was planning to steal some more of the Republicans' ground in a speech tonight proposing to cut capital gains tax.

Mr Clinton arrived in Chicago by helicopter to a tumultuous welcome. During his slow rail journey across the American heartland his opinion poll lead had climbed back to double digits.

Arriving at Chicago's navy pier, the president was greeted by his wife — fresh from a heartening welcome by conference delegates — and vice-president Al Gore, who yesterday heard the party chant of "four more years" turn into "twelve more years".

The mood of unified triumph in a party now drilled to the president's "New Democrat" ideology was dampened only by the relatively small television audience of 24 million for the first night. Although a fraction better than the figures for the Republican convention two weeks ago, this was well short of the Democrats' audience four years ago.

The audience has seen a carefully-scripted television variety programme of laser shows and musical interludes, packaging a formal act of fealty by a predominantly liberal party which has settled for a moderate leader who can win elections. The Democrats' liberal heroes bent the knee to Mr Clinton as the price for a two-hour burst of the old religion that will have to satisfy them for another four years.

"We need to have the faith to hold on," Mr Jackson told the convention, after earlier in the day counselling "revolutionary patience" at meetings where no cameras were present. "When we the people coalesce with an enlightened president, we can change America for the better."

'Clinton stands up against the radical right and the rabid revolutionaries'

"President Clinton has been our first line of defence against the Newt Gingrich contract. America's right-wing assault on the elderly, our students and civil rights. We must maintain with integrity the first lines of defence as they attack the integrity of the First Lady."

"He deserves four more years. He will win and deserve to win. Stand tall, Mr President," Mr Jackson concluded.

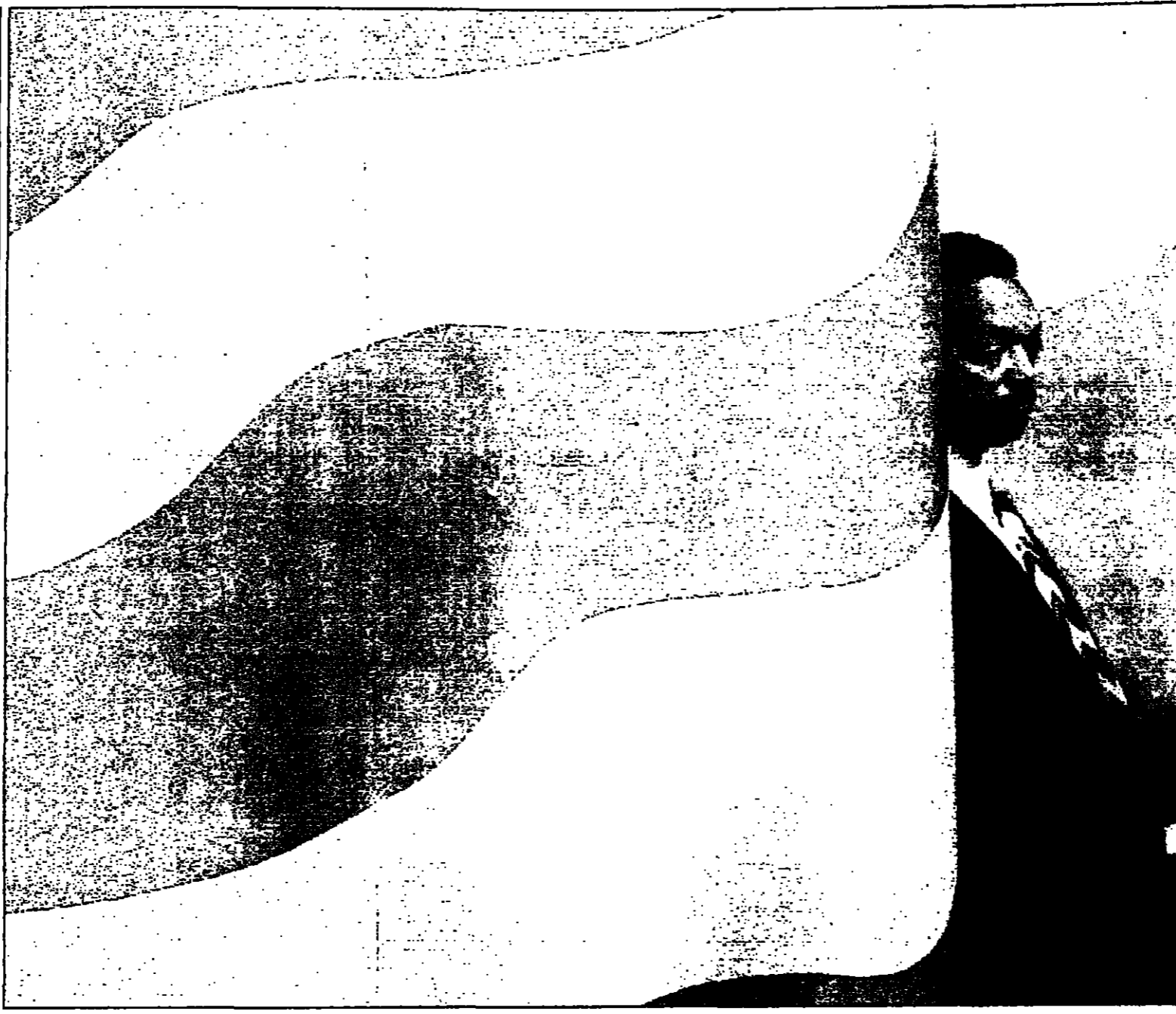
His barn-storming and emotional speech countered the war record of the Republican candidate, Bob Dole, with memories of his own father returning home from the war, required to travel in segregated trains and buses.

Mr Cuomo said that "being faithful to Democratic principles requires more than guarding the museum of the past". He praised the president for "standing virtually alone against the radical right and the rabid revolutionaries led by Newt Gingrich".

Away from the television cameras, the Democratic rhetoric has been more fiery. Mr Gore told a rally of trade union delegates: "The two-headed monster of Dole-Gingrich has launched an all-out assault on decades of progress on behalf of working men and women."

Complaints against Mr Clinton's rightward move were intense. Ohio congresswoman Marcy Kaptur startled White House aides when she introduced the president alone in his train stops with a harsh attack on the North American Free Trade Agreement. And in Chicago, Senator Frank Lautenberg said: "I am not comfortable with the party deserting some of its fundamentals."

The remnants of the left, rallied into the Committee on Economic Insecurity, gathered yesterday with leaders of the National Organisation of Women and Americans for Democratic Action "to discuss the revitalisation of the left".



Reverend Jesse Jackson, a leader of the party's supplanted left, waits in the wings as his son introduces him at the convention PHOTOGRAPH: RON EDMONDS

Delegates applaud Kennedy, the new comeback kid

Jonathan Freedland in Chicago

DEMOCRATS will tonight celebrate not one "comeback kid" but two when they welcome on stage Senator Teddy Kennedy, the liberal veteran who has pulled off a political revival matched only by President Clinton's. The patriarch of America's quasi-royal Kennedy dynasty comes to Chicago relaunched: leaner, fitter and with perhaps more influence than ever before.

Less than two years ago, Americans were ready to write Mr Kennedy's political obituary. Always in the shadow of brothers John and Bobby, his reputation was shattered at Chappaquiddick in July 1975 when a young woman companion drowned in his car. His presidential ambitions were crushed by his failed challenge to Jimmy Carter in 1980 and he became an object of derision. Frequently the target of late-night TV comedians, he was caught up in the notorious rape trial of his nephew, William Kennedy Smith, and suffered further from revelations about his still wild personal life.

By autumn 1994, polls showed Massachusetts voters ready to eject the so-called last brother after 32 years in office. Only by running what aides concede was the "race of his life" did Mr Kennedy manage to survive that year's Republican landslide.

But just as President Clinton seemed to hear the 1994 result as an alarm, so did Mr Kennedy. He has lost weight and his suits no longer strain to hold his bulk. His face is no longer mottled crimson and reveals once again that distinct Kennedy profile. His personal regime — rising at 6am, working the treadmill, eating fruit salad for lunch — has been matched by a new zeal for work. He was the prime mover behind last week's minimum wage rise and a moderate reform of health-

care which allows workers to keep insurance cover if they leave or lose their jobs. Perhaps the capstone of his legislative career, the Kennedy-Kassebaum health care bill — co-sponsored with Republican Nancy Kassebaum — was passed by a 100-0. He has also taken the lead in blocking a Republican measure that would have stripped illegal immigrants of key rights, and in shepherding legislation aimed at extending aid to southern black churches hit by arson attempts.

The senator attributes his renaissance to his second wife Vicki, who, he says, weaned him off his doughnut-eating, hard-drinking ways. Analysts say a climate change has created space for his old-fashioned economic populism. A revived trade union movement, wage stagnation and rising economic anxiety — what Mr Kennedy calls the "quiet depression" — mean Americans are willing once again to hear his message of fairness and equality.



Campaigning Bill Clinton strikes a Churchillian pose

'He's a metaphor for the Democratic revival. The guy is just everywhere'

"He's a metaphor for the Democratic revival," said Scott Southerland, a spokesman for the labour department. "The guy is just everywhere."

"Tonight's speech is, in part, a reward from Mr Clinton, who this year sent the senator a birthday card, now on display in his office. "Thanks for your friendship and for not losing heart when so many did," he wrote. For Mr Clinton, close ties to Mr Kennedy bring another benefit: association with the priceless Camelot mystique.

"Tonight will be a nostalgic occasion — Democratic conventions have always swooned for the Kennedys — but few believe it will be a swansong. As this year has proved, there's life in the old liberal lion yet."

Peace pits peasants against old enemy

The survivors of El Salvador's army massacres could be on the move again. Jonathan Steele reports from Guarjila

HIGH in the ravine-pitted mountains of Chalatenango, hundreds of peasants who survived army massacres, a month-long trek to international refugee camps, and years of living off hand-outs are back home and fighting an ancient enemy — mean-spirited landowners with the power to set them on the move again.

to Joaquin Villalobos, who once led the Popular Revolutionary Army (ERP), one of five groups in the combined guerrilla force, the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN). "Agrarian reform isn't the biggest issue. Most Salvadorans live in cities. They offer more jobs," he said.

The peace accords of 1992 allowed communities which took over abandoned land during the war to buy it on long-term credit. But the landowner, not the government, was to set the price. "Some are asking for 10 times the market rate," one UN official said. "They think they have people over a barrel, because the communities have built schools, clinics and workshops, as well as their own homes."

With the December deadline approaching for the UN's departure, officials trying to complete the purchase negotiations fear landowners may try to evict the peasants. The UN is calling on the government to extend their right of tenure until the sales are made.

In Guarjila, one of the affected areas, José Angel Cerrano runs a tree-planting project to safeguard the steep eroded hillsides where peasants plant maize. Nearby are rows of houses made of concrete blocks — paid for by foreign non-governmental organisations — rather than the local wood. After seven years in a refugee camp in Honduras, the community persuaded the UN to guarantee their safe return to El Salvador.

Civil rights groups claim that 'racist' welfare reforms target California's most vulnerable

Christopher Reed in Los Angeles

CIVIL rights groups have described this week's order to remove almost all welfare benefits from illegal immigrants in California as cynical racist politics that hurt the most vulnerable.

The Republican governor, Pete Wilson, announced the cuts less than a week after President Bill Clinton signed a Republican-sponsored welfare reform act also widely criticised.

The California order targets 2 million undocumented workers, mostly from Mexico. They include tens of thousands in menial industrial and domestic jobs, and seasonal workers who for decades have brought in the harvest with the authorities' knowledge.

Pre-natal care for 70,000 women will be immediately eliminated. Also affected are retirement, unemployment, food stamps, public housing, disabilities, non-emergency health and higher education. Schooling is exempt.

Chris Schneider, a lawyer with a rural immigrants' legal service, said: "Farm workers are being used as pawns in a cynical political game. Wilson is attacking the most vulnerable in society and it makes me ashamed to be a Californian."

Pentagon knew of nerve gas at Iraqi dump in 1991

Ian Katz in New York

THE PENTAGON has admitted that senior United States government officials were told as early as November 1991 that chemical weapons had been stored at a large Iraqi munitions dump destroyed by American troops.

However, the Pentagon insisted for more than four years that it had no evidence Gulf war veterans were exposed to chemical weapons. Like thousands of other veterans of Operation Desert Storm, many of the 150 US soldiers involved in the demolition of the Kamistiyah dump have complained of medical problems.

The information that chemical weapons were stored at the dump in the southern Iraqi desert was included in a secret intelligence report distributed to the White House, the Pentagon, the CIA and the state department in November 1991.

But though the report was relayed to US military commanders around the world, the Pentagon says it did not realise at the time that US troops involved in the demolition might have been exposed to chemical agents.

It was only this spring that soldiers who took part in the March 1991 mission were told they might have been exposed to mustard gas and Sarin, a deadly nerve agent.

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Bosnia
France head
for autumn
of discontent

Diary

Matthew Norman

FROM the Isle of Wight County Press comes news — astonishing news — of last Wednesday's Seaview Regatta. As John Carter reports, the sun shone, everyone had fun, and Jessamy Hardie, four, came third in the sand-castle competition. What an enchanting bucolic idyll it all sounds. But wait... what is this? "Adela Botomley — daughter of National Heritage Secretary Virginia — eventually won the Toby Bonham Challenge Cup after three play-off sittings against Vanessa Hunt." Begins a reference to some arcane practice on a mysterious "greasy pole". For what follows, I beg you to brace for impact. "Adela, 14, opened the contest." It continues, "a Pamela Garrison look-alike with inflated breasts..." "Oh my God. Although Adela soon discarded her false breasts (indeed, without them, and to her credit, she went on to "pip cousin Charity Garnett" in a diving competition), psychologists will agree that there is no way of predicting what long-term scars of inadequacy, if any, may be left. Peter Best would not return our call yesterday, but purely to refuse to comment, while a nervous Heritage press office. The Diary is silent too: the truth is, I am too shocked for words.

A NEW political slogan, a natural successor, some will feel, to the endlessly witty "I like Ike", has hit American politics. It comes from Chicago, host city to this week's Democratic convention. A caller from the town to the radio show of the "shock jock" phone-in host Rush Limbaugh yesterday announced: "We have a saying here in Chicago... 'the women of Chicago like their Dick Daley.'" Mr Limbaugh, an ultra-right-winger with a schola for a name like Chicago mayor Richard Daley, sounded oddly embarrassed, and mumbled something about being sure he knew what she meant.

F EARS mount that a mad woman is on the loose pretending to be my ex-wife of (oh how many) years. Replying in a Monday newspaper to an assault upon her by a BBC colleague the day before, the real Esther wrote: "The attack in the Sunday Telegraph was unprecedented... I was given absolutely no advance warning before it was printed." This is very odd indeed, since the article was heavily puffed in Saturday's Telegraph. Esther herself was unaware of this, of course, but the impostor saw it and spent much of Saturday on the phone falling to get a "right to reply" in the same issue. Who she is, this Rantzen wannabe, and what she's up to, no one knows. Please God, she can be stopped before she harms the real Esther's reputation.

A ND a warm "Hats off" to all of you who noticed the mistake in the excellent John Wars, I've called Martin by yesterday's Diary. You will also have noticed that the mistake occurred in the same sentence as the phrase "silly journalism". This, we feel, makes it not a crass mistake, but a clever piece of irony.

I N response to a long-running row about traditional pub names, the brewer Greenalls has renamed one of its Nottingham pubs "The Samuel Morley". Mr Morley was a Victorian MP and businessman (as the brewery is well aware); he was also a ransacking territorial who struggled valiantly all his adult life to dissuade people from alcohol (as perhaps the brewery is not). Rumours that Greenalls is to rename its Arnhem Road pub "The Reverend Falcifer" are thought to be mischievous.

C HORTLE to learn that all the letters forming the name Liam Gallagher, new analysis and absentee Oasis singer, can be rearranged into the blarney phrase "I'm a foul-mouthed Mancunian twat with a passion for cocaine". They cannot, in fact, but let this set the sun on suggestions of humorous anagrams and hilarious spell checks all the same.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN... (small text about a historical figure or anecdote)

Campaigners become enemies of the state

George Monbiot

THERE was an invited guest at the street party organised by traffic protesters in Brighton last weekend. An inspector with the Metropolitan Police's Forward Intelligence Team, he seemed to know rather more about the rest of the guest list than the organisers did. Before the party began, local police conferred with him, then darted into the crowds to pull out known activists. Only when the officers stopped rallying on the inspector's advice and started picking up people who just looked as if they might be involved did they start making mistakes — one of the 80 people arrested was a man handing out leaflets about Dianetics. The inspector was well-placed to know who to grab. His unit has been monitoring environmental protesters all over the country. In June and July it used a house opposite the London offices of Reclaim the Streets to watch activists' movements. Whenever any-

one left on a bicycle, a car and a mountain bike would follow. When the campaigner's minibus pulled out, four cars took off behind it. Six weeks ago, the Forward Intelligence Team raided the office and removed its computers. Environmentalists subjected to crude observation of this kind say they find it terrifying but not particularly alarming. They are far more concerned about the sort of surveillance that is often suspected but seldom proved. As the action campaign develops, they are accumulating more and more evidence to suggest that environmental protest is becoming the state's "necessary enemy", replacing miners, communists and terrorists as a justification for lavish spending on domestic intelligence. It is easy for campaigners to get paranoid, to imagine a bug on every gathering and a spook in every gathering and a bug on every phone. The direct-action movement seethes with rumours, some of which have only the most tenuous connections to reality. But a combination of announcements and leaked reports from police bodies, changes in practice and the occasional slip-up suggests that the notion that peaceful environmental protest is becoming part of a job-creation scheme for spooks is more than just a figment of over-wrought imaginations. In March, the Association of

Chief Police Officers, while admitting that no terrorist of forces by greens have taken place, and failing to furnish any evidence to suggest that they were likely to occur, decided to start using the Anti-Terrorist Squad to gather intelligence on environmental activists. Already, even the most law-abiding greens complain they are being made to feel like potential bombers. During the Big Green Gathering at the end of July — a sort of gymkhana or county show for environmentalists — police used powers granted by the new Prevention of Terrorism Act to strip-search people coming on to the site. At the end of 1994, Special Branch announced that it was changing its priorities to concentrate on environmental activism. Earlier this year, Contract Journal carried extracts from a Special Branch report, suggesting, again without accompanying evidence, that environmental activists might be preparing for "suicide attacks" on road builders. To avert this and other peculiar possibilities, the report had identified 1,700 campaigners. During the McDonald's libel trial, one of the company's vice-presidents testified that Special Branch had been passing him information about potential protesters. In court last year, activists who had planned a demonstration against an open cast mine near Leeds asked a

police officer how his force had managed to arrive at the protest site before the protesters. He replied that the police had found the details on the Internet. But neither the date nor the location had been posted on the Net. These details, the activists believe, could only have been obtained by bugging or infiltration. Several campaigners complain of hearing previous conversations played back to them when they pick up the telephone, or getting through to Group 4 headquarters while trying to phone a friend. Fifteen months ago, 40 MoD police burst into Greenpeace's offices and, guarding the staircases and corridors, downloaded data from the organisation's computers. They were looking, they told staff, for criminal evidence. But no one has been charged with an offence, and the data has yet to be returned. Employees are beginning to suspect that the raid had more to do with

ers, being "a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose", now qualify for MI6's attention, under the terms of the new Security Services Bill. Whether or not this will make much difference remains to be seen. During the IRA ceasefire, while the monitoring of domestic subversion should have declined sharply, the number of warrants for phone tapping approved by the Home Secretary doubled. Were there evidence that green campaigners had become a genuine terrorist threat, all this attention would be justifiable. But environmental protest in Britain is avowedly non-violent. Campaigners routinely break the laws designed to contain them, such as the aggravated trespass and trespassory assembly provisions of the last Criminal Justice Act, and sometimes commit obstruction, a breach of the peace or even criminal damage. But that's about as far as it goes. To apply the tactics of counter-terrorism to people organising openly on behalf of popular causes is about as measured a response as using 50 horses and 30 hounds to kill a fox. In a sense it is a great compliment to the effectiveness of a comparatively small number of people. But, as well as providing work for unemployed spies, this surveillance is also a deeply worrying indication that the state is so ill at ease with itself that it can brook no questioning of its wisdom. But the ability to challenge the state's authority, reclaiming politics from the politicians, is good for the state, as well as society. Society is like an amoeba: it moves from the margins, not from the centre. Cut off from its margins, the state can only sclerotise and shrivel, becoming ever less responsive to change. Heterodoxy and subversion are the ushers of progress.

Your life is still in your hands



Meg Henderson

BEMUSEMENT was the first reaction to videos of operations being sold in the High Street. Then came wonderment that such films would find a market, and finally outrage that our NHS bills and ailments should be used to enrich entrepreneurs in the entertainment industry. Well, grisly films will find a ready market — there really are people out there like that. Besides, we must remember that the company producing this novel approach to family entertainment was also behind that other "educational" film, depicting executions. How shocking it again in slow motion, just to be sure. This time round a spokesman for the company was quoted as saying that the idea of making money from what are essentially training films for student doctors came from the doctors concerned in the original filming. You know, those kindly, caring, 20th-century Gods we entrust with the wellbeing and lives of our nearest and dearest, as well as our own. I have no idea if this is true, though I wouldn't be surprised, and the courts will decide if these deeply offensive videos should be sold. But there are matters arising that need to be addressed, have needed to be addressed for rather a long time actually, so perhaps opening this particular can of worms will turn out to be a good thing after all.

case that a great many of them come from similarly afflicted paralytics. What they tend not to have is experience of normal life. Indeed, one of their greatest handicaps in dealing with the majority of their patients is the class divide. They see a great deal of suffering but they don't necessarily experience it. The picture, I'm told, is changing, but most doctors still come from different social backgrounds than the mass of their patients; they have been raised and live in areas where money isn't a problem; they are used to better amenities and a higher standard of living; and they often don't speak the same language, even if both think it's English. The product of this social and cultural divide is an acceptance by both sides that doctors know best — the traditional paternal role of the doctor supported by both sides. This is reinforced by the projection of the God-like aura, useful for stopping possible dissent in its tracks. Not to mention an untold number of legal actions for medical negligence, malpractice, or (as we are beginning to call it) medical accident. But it works against the doctor as well as the patient. It is, for instance, unrealistic and unfair to believe that doctors never make mistakes; trust me on this one, I have witnessed many. When they do, it isn't always because they are hopeless, or have murderous intent; most are genuine mistakes by very fallible human beings. Instead of hounding some unfortunate medic through the courts and the press, it would make sense to have a no-fault compensation system. What we have is the medical profession closing ranks to protect the bad as well as the good, thereby dumping the innocent victim; the patient. All in their best interests, you understand.

OTI sides need to grow up. Patients have to get to grips with the knowledge that their wellbeing is their own business. You don't accept the first quote; it's your life, you have the right to ask questions, request explanations and require your doctor to come up with available alternatives, not just the preferred option. And doctors have to divest themselves of that handy aura they hide behind, and stop behaving like prima donnas when confronted by patients who exercise their rights. That is how it works when medics themselves become patients. Medic patients would never find their innards exposed on video for the enjoyment of sad creatures prepared to pay for the "pleasure". There is another alternative, of course. Go private.

Meg Henderson is the author of Finding Peggy (Corp)



ILLUSTRATION: DANIEL PUOLIS

Unite against Baghdad

Britain must help the Iraqi hijackers in search of asylum, and ignore those Tories calling for their return, argues Emma Nicholson — for we have done little to curb Saddam's tyranny

I N THE wake of the Iraqi dissidents' hijack of a Sudan Airways passenger plane and its consequent dramatic on British soil, it is timely to examine both the British Government's response to this potential tragedy and to the vast, continuing disaster that is Saddam's Iraq. None of us knows who the hijackers are nor whom they represent, but it seems likely that they are high-ranking officials, probably from Saddam's army or even his notorious Republican Guard. How else could they have been allowed to leave Iraq together with their families? Even some of his most long-serving diplomats are forbidden to take wives and children with them outside the borders of Iraq. Their families are held in detention with lives and safety conditional upon the travelling members' return. Such relative freedom to travel in entire family structures can only mean one thing: these men were close to Saddam Hussein himself and their defection would mean prolonged and agonising persecution for them and their families if they were

commented privately last year, it has become difficult to distinguish between the actions of the Iraqi Kurds towards each other and those of Saddam's armies against them. The tragedy of the Turkish Kurdish community has blurred the picture internationally and may have cloaked from time to time the marauding Iraqi army's actions around Iraq's northern safe-haven. The bitter pill for these countries such as the United Kingdom who initiated and still support the safe-haven, has been the sight of Barzani and Talabani fighting each other as opposed to moving against Baghdad. This Iraqi opposition inability to have a clear focus and a single aim has dogged their efforts to dislodge Saddam for years. Surely one form of opposition, and by far the strongest, should come from the very large Iraqi communities now sheltering in the region and the West. The United Kingdom harbours perhaps 65,000 Iraqi refugees. France has a smaller number, as does Germany. The Europeans' volume of Iraqi refugees shrinks in comparison with the 645,000 who have gained a safe haven in Iran, where I assist 90,000 to survive through the Amar (Assisting March Arabs and Refugees) appeal. More have fled to Syria or Lebanon, and others again, although very small in number, are in the US. All of

these communities are bedevilled by a singular lack of cohesion and aims. Turning again to the battle against apartheid, the Iraqi opposition would do well to study the African National Congress (ANC). Despite their difficulties, which are being aired now in front of Archbishop Tutu and fellow members of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, they form a model which the Iraqi National Congress (INC) would do well to study. Wherever they are living, members of the ANC put the aims of the organisation above their tribal grievances. The destruction of apartheid and one-man-one-vote (one-woman-one too) in South Africa were their goals — which they have achieved. A modern miracle created by consistent, united work. I N CONTRAST, the Iraqi National Congress, despite its backing by the European Union, the US and many Gulf regional governments, has been riven by disunity. Without a unified opposition within and outside Iraq, how can sympathetic governments assist the people of Iraq in any tangible way other than through the provision of humanitarian aid? Of course, it could rightly have been expected by all and sundry that the British Government would have taken a lead political role. After all, Iraq was a British protectorate. It was the British who

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Abram Games

Graphic images for war and work

ABRAM Games, who has died aged 82, was one of the last great British poster designers...

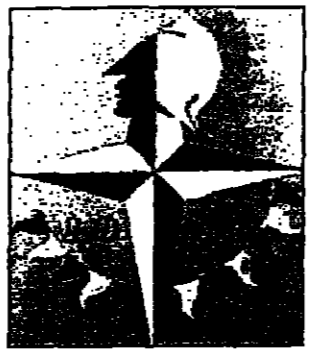
unforgettable. His must have stuck in many people's minds as vividly as they did in mine.

in 1969, and was awarded the Royal Society of Art's silver medal in 1962; he was honoured with many international exhibitions and international design awards.

Later on he sometimes chose a broader treatment: a Keep Britain Tidy road sweeper, a Top Person in a top reading The Times. But his most characteristic and expressive work is in his tighter and more precise vein: his idealised faces — the symbolic goddess like the ATS girl and the Festival Britannia.



War-time ATS poster (detail)



Festival of Britain logo

Germany and A M Cassandre in France, and an English tradition that included E McKnight Kauffer and Ashley Havinden as well as Games's nearer contemporaries such as Tom Eekersley, George Him and F H K Henrion.

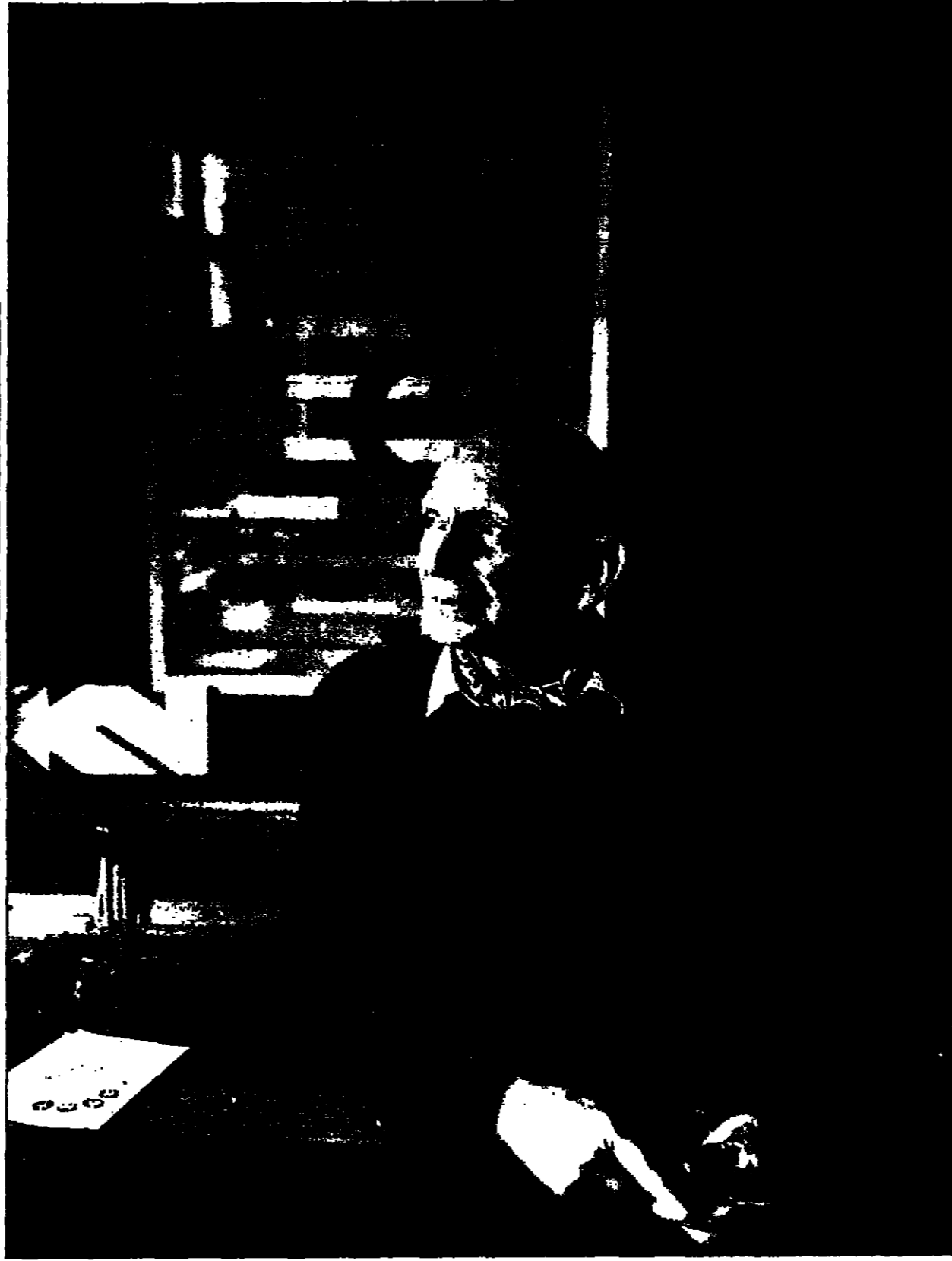
Games went on to design many more symbols and devices for other prominent bodies like the BBC, British Aluminium and the Queen's Award for Industry, and postage stamps for Jersey and Israel.

As a person he was friendly, considerate and encouraging, as a teacher (he taught me in my first year at the RCA), he could also be quite firm.

His posters gave you plenty to look at. He was tireless and self-critical in the way he developed his ideas, through many tiny studies — as he wrote recently, "I never work large, because my interest has always been in poster design and posters seen from a distance are small. If ideas do not work when they are an inch high, they are never going to work."

Games always worked on his own at his north London home. He was serious and dedicated: "I am a very determined man. I will make it work if I know it is right."

Games may have been shy on occasion but he did not seem to lack self-confidence. He believed in what he did without any apparent doubts and quite without irony.



'I don't think he would have made a design that was subversive.' Graphic designer, Abram Games in 1990. MURPHY CONANT

ers, but no longer as a professional. The liveliest posters are often opposed: Television has taken the punch out of commercial posters; the hearings have to grub along on infantile political posters and cigarette ads that are not allowed on television. Poster images are now mostly photographic. The kind of playful or surreal

distortions, the visual tricks that Games played with paint, are now done routinely and anonymously on computers; it would not occur to anyone to wonder who had done them.

All Abram Games's designs were recognisably his own. They had vigour, imagination, passion and individuality. He was proud of his work and his

profession. And he was lucky — and clever — in contriving, over a long and creative working life, to keep on doing what he did best. In his chosen medium he was a master.

David Gentleman

Abram Games, graphic artist, born July 29, 1914; died August 27, 1996



Italian job... Fisher as Turandot with James Johnston at Covent Garden

Sylvia Fisher

The voice of Gloriana

WHEN Sylvia Fisher, who has died aged 86, appeared as Beecham's heroine at Covent Garden on December 9, 1948, nobody would have guessed that this was the first time she had ever stepped on to the operatic stage.

during which loneliness had frequently made her feel like returning home. She was always a person of melancholy and pessimistic disposition, even at the height of her success.

Régine Crespin a more sensitive one, but Sylvia Fisher was the most convincing in portraying the pathos of the woman finally renouncing her younger lover.

Other important roles included Ellen in Puccini's Turandot and the English Opera Group, singing the first Lady Billows in Albert Herring and then parts in other British operas. On the night of the composer's 50th birthday, November 22, 1963, she enjoyed an outstanding success at the Royal Festival Hall as Queen Elizabeth in a concert performance of Gloriana, which had been so poorly received at Covent Garden as the Coronation opera 10 years earlier.

news came through of President Kennedy's assassination, so what should have been a celebration dinner in her London home afterwards became an occasion for grief as we sat at table watching the events in Dallas being shown on television.

Fortunately the performance of Gloriana, though given little press coverage was not forgotten, and it was staged at Sadler's Wells three years later, again with Sylvia Fisher in the title role. This time it was acclaimed even by those critics who had dismissed it originally, and it remained in the repertoire for several seasons.

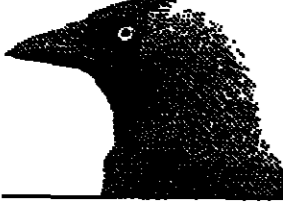
Birthdays

Lord (Richard) Attenborough, producer, director, chairman, Channel 4, 73. Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, merchant banker, 63. Dame Mary Donaldson, first woman Lord Mayor of London, 75. William Friedkin, film director, 57. Elliott Gould, actor, 58. Thom Gunn, poet, 67. Lenny Henry, comedian, 38. Marmaduke Hussey, former chairman, BBC board of governors, 73. Michael Jackson, rock singer, 32. Tony Newton MP, Leader of the Commons, 52. Dick Spring, deputy prime minister, Republic of Ireland, 46.

Death Notices

CROWDER, Fred, on the 22nd August 1996, in his 82nd year after a long illness. FRED, EDWARD, dear son of the late Walter and Lena Crowder and much loved brother, died peacefully at home, 12, St. Paul's Church, Walthamstow, on Tuesday, August 20, 1996, aged 82 years. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to: Mrs. M. Crowder, 12, St. Paul's Church, Walthamstow, Essex. Tel: 0201 551 5242.

Jackdaw



Curry favour

Step one: wear napkins on faces, bandit-style. Step two: all shout in unison, "hands up for lager!" Step three: front row prop to order "Poppadoms, and many of them!" Step four: sing: "You've lost that loving feeling" immediately segueing into the theme tune from Hawaii Five-O.

Fine wine

1. Always carry a corkscrew. 2. Store your wines in the coolest part of the house. 3. Try to keep a cellar book, or at least a note of what you have drunk and enjoyed. 4. If you are buying for investment, always buy the best wine you can afford: go for quality rather than quantity. 5. Buy only the best vintages

Erotic front

IT WAS 4pm on the 13th floor of a hotel in Paddington when I discovered waistbands. He was scanning the horizon line, mist piling off St Paul's but my view was a radiator and an inch-and-a-half thick strip of elastic waistband. The pants were nice olive-green-and-apricot-striped-soft-cotton shorts, but the waistband... I mean it was big, a bloody great chastity belt, a 38" suspension ring of corrugated fabric. It cut his body into biographical halves — above: the slow curve of a man-size torso; below 12 inches of boyish pants. My next waistband epiphany happened in the gym. Lying on my

High Times

DANIELLE — Cannabis dealer Age: 30 Area: South London I'm a single mother with two boys, both under six, and I've been living on the social. I get £26.40 a week — and it doesn't go anywhere. Dealing gives me a quality of life that I

side stretching my leg

I rolled over to face a body, again cut in half by the thinnest drawing-string waistband on a pair of off-white cotton trousers. The drawing had in a faded T-shirt, showed a slither of colour of underpants there and there. It made the man appear fragile and tender. Waistbands are the most exquisitely erotic things. The waistband on a pair of trousers is rigged for a man's sexuality, the horizontal divide between above and below, between the working man and the sexual man. Through decades of fashion, waistbands have told us more in shorthand about men's public image than any amount of cloth and colour. Harries Quick confesses to being a waistband fetishist in Arena Homme Plus.

make me say it all belonged to my boyfriend Marcus

In the end they charged me and the babysitter and I got half the cause of me and the kids. Marcus knew this bloke who'd been caught with a load of drugs. He pleaded guilty and was going to prison anyway, so Marcus offered him eight grand to put his hands up to my lot as well, so he did. I won't work nine-to-five after doing this now!

Michael — Cocaine dealer

Age: 24 Area: Bristol I'd come to England on a long holiday. Then I met a girl and three months later she got pregnant. My visa was run out, and I didn't have a social security number and I couldn't get another job. Then some guys who sold stuff on the frontlines, they said, "Come on!" I didn't want to go in too deep. The first time I bought the smallest amount: a sixteenth for £150. In 10 minutes I'd sold out and made £150 on my £150. And then I got greedy. Pretty soon I was making £4,000-£5,000 a week. I also had a lot of stuff. People who smoked crack would go out robbing and then give you things in exchange for drugs. Sky magazine dives into the dealer's world.

from Major Homfrey

(he owns a farm in the vale of Glamorgan), made the move when the consumers discovered where the manure was coming from. "It's absolute madness to think that there can be any connection between BSE and a product you put in a watering can to liquid feed hanging baskets and plant pots," he said. It has been worked out that it would take a million cows head to tail to stretch the distance between John O'Grants and Llanrwst. The journey length of Great Britain designed to promote and help boost confidence in British beef. The promotional journey, One Million Cows Long, is on 12 September. Mad effects still prevailing, reported in the Meat Trades Journal.

Cow corner

THE GERMANS tough stance against BSE surely hit rock bottom this week with a store cancelling corners for top quality prize cattle manure — because it came from Wales! The store, which takes 12,000 bags of the manure a year

Emily Sheffield

Jackdaw wants jettis. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4368; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 115 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

EU ex

Dividends fall as Man's broken

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

EU exports cut trade gap

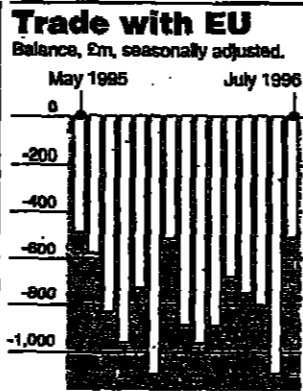
Pick-up dispels City anxieties

Richard Thomas
Economics Correspondent

SURGING exports to the Continent have fuelled a pick-up in the UK's trade performance, dispelling City fears that a buoyant high street would send British spiralling into the red.

After a summer of upbeat figures on inflation, borrowing and unemployment, Treasury ministers welcomed news of a narrowing trade gap as a sign of new competitiveness among exporters.

the demand — and in particular consumer activity — will have an adverse impact on the trade balance.



proved, with the deficit down to £506 million against £1,090 million in June.

But some economists warned that the subdued import demand could be a reflection of a large stock overhang in British factories, with firms meeting demand from storerooms, rather than overseas orders.

Notebook

Disentangling the conglomerate myth



Edited by Alex Brummer

AMONG the reasons that demergers have become so fashionable is that they make it easier for investors to understand the dynamics of a business.

caped the sharp-eyed Hanson managers at the new Imperial.

As well as equipping themselves with share option schemes which will yield 150 per cent of basic salary, their contracts protect them from takeover with a poison pill which would provide twice the annual salary plus other benefits, including pensions.

Dividends will fall as Hanson is broken up

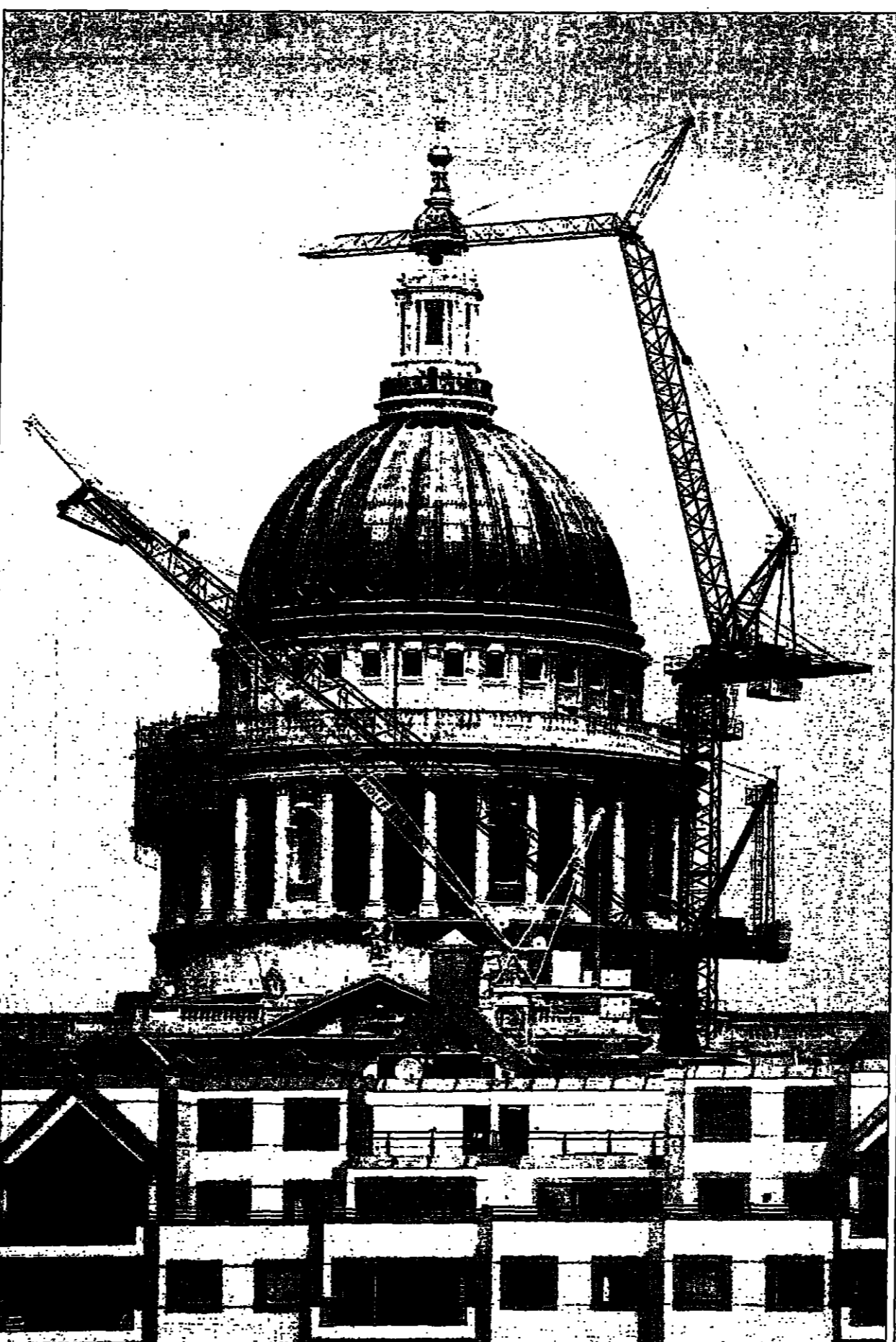
Roger Cove

THE demerger of Hanson, the formerly high-flying conglomerate, will cost £36 million — but will leave shareholders worse off as the dividends of the constituent parts will fall well short of the group's recent payouts.

turer — will have heavy debts and may not be profitable.

"There can be no assurance that it can be operated profitably as a stand alone company... After the demerger the company will have to meet all of its cash requirements through funds generated internally from operations and external borrowings (which may be more costly)," the statement says.

MILE EYE



The dome of St Paul's rising above the smoke provided an enduring image of the Blitz. Only the ever present cranes obscure today's view from the south bank of the Thames in David Sillitoe's photograph for our series of City Images

Bureau opens more secure route to buying via the net

Nicholas Bamister
Technology Editor

THE race to realise the commercial potential of the Internet heated up yesterday when UUNET Pipex launched what it claimed to be the first really secure payment service.

Farmers reap healthy profit as Dairy Crest shares surge

Tony May

SHARES in Dairy Crest Group, formerly the manufacturing arm of the now defunct Milk Marketing Board, surged 27 per cent to 19p on their first day of trading on the London stock exchange.

Lloyd's rebels given another week

Pauline Springett

THE embattled Lloyd's of London insurance market yesterday launched a last-ditch effort to eliminate the remaining opposition to its £2.3 billion rescue plan, informally extending the deadline for acceptance.

Richard Rosenblat, chairman of the American Names action group said he thought the extension was a tactic to discourage rebels from continuing to litigate. "It won't succeed," he added.

He also said that Lloyd's was informally extending its deadline for Names to accept the rescue package because it did not have sufficient numbers in favour. However, it appears certain that the Lloyd's ruling council will be in a position to declare the offer unconditional after it meets today.

He also said that Lloyd's may have deferred acceptance of their offer in the light of the Virginia court judgment last Friday and the subsequent US Appeals Court ruling in Baltimore last night. In the circumstances, I believe that the fair and proper course is to extend flexibility in receiving acceptance forms beyond today's deadline.

Iran sues Siemens for failing to complete nuclear plant

Industrial Staff

INCREASINGLY rocky relations between Iran and Germany worsened yesterday when it emerged that Siemens is facing a multi-billion pound claim for damages from Tehran over its failure to complete a nuclear power plant.

missed the claim last night as "absolutely unjustified", saying the matter had largely been settled by international arbitration in 1982.

The plant, being built by the Siemens subsidiary KWU under a contract signed in the mid-1970s, formed the centrepiece of a drive to industrialise Iran by the then Shah.

In 1995 Iran signed a contract with Russia to complete the plant in the face of US protests that Tehran might use the technology to develop nuclear weapons.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 1.90	France 7.60	Italy 2.300	Singapore 2.1275
Austria 15.67	Germany 2.2500	Malta 0.5385	South Africa 6.50
Belgium 45.87	Greece 35.75	Netherlands 2.5025	Spain 186.40
Canada 2.07	Hong Kong 11.71	New Zealand 2.18	Sweden 10.11
Cyprus 0.89	India 56.58	Norway 9.7275	Switzerland 1.78
Denmark 6.8280	Ireland 0.5525	Portugal 225.50	Turkey 125.225
Finland 5.9170	Israel 4.87	Saudi Arabia 6.78	USA 1.5190

Sourced by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel).

Pearl of Avon on the market

WEALTHY oyster lovers who don't mind a spot of hard work are being given the rare opportunity to buy their own oyster-farming business...



PHOTOGRAPH OF OYSTER FARMER GUY LLOYD-JONES BY TIM CLIFF

Cockburn sanguine at first loss in 204 years

Outlook Roger Coowe

ABOUT half in 204 years of trading at 100 Smith Street... Cockburn would have wished to begin his period in charge...

which has seen its market more seriously eroded by the supermarket... A new management team has been recruited...

Highly paid architect signed up to design new Citibank headquarters at Canary Wharf

Foster doubles his salary

— against £209,984 the previous year — in the year ended April 1995... Sir Norman Foster, the world-famous architect...

Foster Holdings, in which Sir Norman holds an 80 per cent stake, reported a 21 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £1.2 million during the period...

decided to bring a number of its London offices together at the new building, has so far said that Canary Wharf is the "preferred site"...

now designing a 1,000-ft skyscraper in the City of London for Kvaerner, the Norwegian shipping and engineering group...

Citibank, the second-biggest bank in the US, will base 2,500 of its 4,000 British staff — mainly working in banking and capital markets — in the new building...

existing office premises last year, as part of a cost-saving reorganisation... Mr Carassalini said Canary Wharf had received the nod over another rival site...

In demand from France to Japan

Sarah Whitebloom and Ian King on the popularity and passion of Sir Norman

ALTHOUGH some of his colleagues, such as Sir Richard Rogers, may have a higher public profile, Sir Norman Foster is one of the leading figures in world architecture...

include the space-age Stansted airport and the controversial Cambridge law library... The 61-year-old former council worker and national serviceman has come a very long way from his Manchester working-class roots...



Powerful vision... Sir Norman Foster's design for Wembley Stadium in the 21st century

is on holiday. Despite his appetite for work there have been questions asked about just how much of his burgeoning workload Sir Norman is able to control...

Thatcherite 1980s. He built bigger and taller towers such as the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank's headquarters... He is extremely thorough, exacting and difficult to work for...

exacting and difficult to work for, the most architects Sir Norman is also a passionate spokesman for architecture and a founder trustee of the Architecture Foundation...

of the housing charity Shelter... Sir Norman is also a passionate spokesman for architecture and a founder trustee of the Architecture Foundation...

News in brief

Stena loses £55m as competition hots up

FERRE competition in the English Channel has led to first-half pre-tax losses of \$86 million (\$55.4 million) for the Swedish ferry company Stena Line...

400 new jobs at Tyneside yard

MORE than 400 new jobs will be created at a Tyneside offshore engineering yard which has become part of a major Norwegian company...

BA ends Mediterranean row

BRITISH Airways intends to stop flying three unprofitable Middle Eastern routes, serving them instead through a franchise agreement with British Mediterranean Airways...

Johnston's ad sales optimism

JOHNSTON Press — whose purchase last month of Emap newspapers for £205 million made it the UK's biggest regional newspaper group — sees signs of a pick-up in the advertising market...

Advertisement for Belgium featuring a graphic of a horse and rider and text: "Belgium has taken the radical step of banning all ostrich and camel racing on its public roads..."

Advertisement for easyJet Amsterdam, featuring the text: "Smart Class not Club Class £35 easyJet Amsterdam"

Advertisement for Underside, featuring Dan Atkinson and text: "Underside Dan Atkinson Poor old Lloyd's just can't shake asbestos..."

Advertisement for Printout (Phil Smith; New English Library), featuring text: "Printout (Phil Smith; New English Library) AS THE property market starts to pick up, so agents return to their equilibrium state..."

Advertisement for Sainsbury's, featuring text: "SAINSBURY is to open the first of its new 'small-town' stores in March. In November, that is, the store in March (in Cambridge) will open in November..."

Vertical text on the right edge: "Too good to be true... Ferreira"

Soccer

Pearce is obvious leading candidate

David Lacey finds Glenn Hoddle seeking a good talker to be his captain in the future

BY HIS choice of captain shall you know him — or not, as the case may be. Glenn Hoddle is due to reveal tomorrow the identity of the player who will lead England into their opening World Cup qualifier against Moldova in Kishinev on Sunday but the significance of his decision will be judged only in retrospect.

With Tony Adams, Terry Venables's captain in the European Championship, and David Platt, Adams's predecessor, injured and out of the squad there would appear to be only one logical option for Hoddle to take. Having talked Stuart Pearce out of international retirement, surely he will give the Nottingham Forest man the armband now.

Pearce's junior and has shown many of the qualities mentioned by Hoddle, even though he has not been captain at Aston Villa. Alternatively he could go for Pearce now, bearing in mind that Adams and Platt will eventually become available for recall, and leave Southgate for the future. It will still be surprising if Pearce is not given the chance at the outset.

Wiseman leads a tricky mission at Planet FA

Martin Thorpe meets the other head man charged with taking England into a new era

AS A LAWYER, a coroner and vice-chairman of Southampton, Keith Wiseman is used to being realistic. So it is no surprise when he says: "Some people want the world changed overnight but it doesn't work like that."

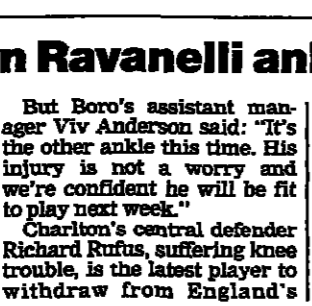
any other business, but they don't get reported. "It is also wrong to infer that, because people on the FA Council represent the amateur game, they are amateurish. They are businessmen and professionals too, like Premiership club chairmen.

concessionary rates for England matches. But Wiseman also wants a place for tradition. He supports help for the clubs "which play an enormous part in the local community and in developing players"; he wants everyone in the game to "remember this is a sport and that not all decisions should be taken for commercial reasons".

The particular world that Pearce wanted overhauled is Planet FA, the unique life-form at Lancaster Gate of which Wiseman was recently voted chairman.

Call him an evolutionary rather than a revolutionary as he accepts the need for change. For instance, he says there is "scope for more Premier League representation on the FA Council".

As for all the glad-handing and politicking to be done in UEFA and FIFA — especially as the FA is going for the 2006 World Cup — Wiseman is ready. "We have to impose our significance as one of the leading footballing nations", he urges.



Wiseman... evolutionary

Boro play down Ravanelli ankle injury

MIDDLESBROUGH yesterday alleviated fears that Fabrizio Ravanelli faces a lengthy lay-off because of an ankle injury.

But Boro's assistant manager Viv Anderson said: "It's the other ankle this time. His injury is not a worry and he will be fit to play next week."

Under-21 squad for the European Championship tie in Moldova on Saturday. But Leicester's teenage striker Enrie Heskey is expected to be fit.

Grobelaar given new mission as Zimbabwe national manager

Russell Thomas

BRUCE GROBBELAAR yesterday underlined his desire to remain in football for several more years when he was appointed manager of the Zimbabwe national team.

Grobelaar "wants to play for at least another four years". Of the court case charged Zimbabwe he said: "Let's wait and see what happens. In the meantime I can get on with playing."

Results

Soccer

Table with columns for Nationwide League, Scottish League Cup, and Football League Cup, listing teams and scores.

Tennis

Table listing tennis matches and results, including Wimbledon and other tournaments.

Baseball

Table listing baseball matches and results from various leagues.

Hockey

Table listing hockey matches and results, including European Nations Cup and others.

Cycling

Table listing cycling events and results, including World Track Championships.

Sport in brief

Rugby League: First and Second Division clubs concerned about future distribution of News Corporation's 50% million are talking of a breakaway...



Dances with Wolves... QPR's goalkeeper Sommer is equal to the challenge of the striker Roberts at Molineux last night

First Division: Wolverhampton Wanderers 1, Queens Park Rangers 1

Dichio's special keeps Wolves at bay

Chris Moore THERE were signs against Bradford last Saturday that our natives getting restless over Wolves' new slow-motion tactics after the fast-forward style of Graham Taylor and it prompted a damning verdict of the former England manager for his successor, Mark McGhee, in last night's programme notes.

"Footballers do not enjoy hoofing the ball as far as they can downfield and chasing after it. The squad inherited were short of both physical and mental strength, were under-coached, and displayed practically no desire to try and appreciate tactics."

cross-bar with a rasping 25-yarder inside two minutes after being slipped through by Roberts. Then Bull, having scored all four of Wolves' goals in their opening two games, had Sommer sprawling full length to keep the Londoners off the canvas.

proving tireless foragers in the middle. But the American goalkeeper was left floundering in the 25th minute by Simon Osborn's spectacular 30-yard free-kick, which dipped over him and into the net off the under side of the bar.

Wolverhampton Wanderers: Sommer, Thompson, Corrie, Bull, Roberts, Caporaso, Somner, Jackson, Hackett, Barker, McDonald, Yates, Peppas, Wilkins, Ochoa, Steve, Sinclair.

But Grobbelaar, who as Plymouth's goalkeeper this season has helped the Devon club head the Second Division after being released by Southampton, will remain based in England. "While I'll leave the coaching duties to my partner," he said, "the boys will have training camps and fax me recommendations of who to select for the internationals."

US Open (New York): Pete Sampras (USA) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Wimbledon (London): Pete Sampras (USA) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

World Track Championships (Manchester): Steve Nouri (USA) 4:20.241; Steve Nouri (USA) 4:20.241; Steve Nouri (USA) 4:20.241.

Wimbledon (London): Pete Sampras (USA) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Wimbledon (London): Pete Sampras (USA) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Wimbledon (London): Pete Sampras (USA) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Rowell firm to replace the old gu...

England give final ultimatum

Rugby Union

Rowell finds no place for the old guard

Robert Armstrong on the omission of an experienced England quartet

WILL CARLING'S 31-year international career could be at an end after his omission from a 43-man England squad announced yesterday...

By the exacting standards of modern Test rugby, though, Carling is not too old to play for England...

A SECOND BOTHAM ARRIVES IN STYLE



Chip off the old block... Ian Botham's 19-year-old son was called up for Hampshire yesterday...

Cricket

Law severe on domestic treadmill

Mike Selvey on England's problems as they prepare to face Pakistan again

IN THE aftermath of the overwhelming defeat by Pakistan in the Test series further stinging criticism has been aimed at the system which produces England cricketers...

do they try and unearth young talents," he said, "and when they do, as they have done this year, they don't seem to stick with it. It's a most exciting cricketer in county cricket but he has not been given a fair run in the Test side."

Quins sign Paul and Connolly

HARLEQUINS yesterday completed their summer recruitment programme with the signing of two of rugby league's leading players...

against Bath last May. Asked whether he could play rugby union for England, he said: "In the short-term, rugby league players may not be good enough but if we have a couple of years' experience it may be that we can make ourselves into international union players..."

Minor Counties MCC Trophy Final: Bedfordshire v Cheshire

Cheshire again the big cheese

Paul Weaver at Lord's sees Larkins miss out on another knock-out winner's medal

Wayne Larkins, one of the most entertaining and destructive of opening batsmen, has never been particularly lucky. His 13 Test caps were won either side of his cavalier pomp and Durham released him last year because they thought Dean Jones was coming...

England given final ultimatum

ENGLAND face a nine-day countdown imposed by the other home unions during which they must come up with concessions demanded over television broadcasting rights...

persuade the RFU to save the Five Nations Championship in its current form, said the committee. The home unions are divided over the issue of satellite and terrestrial television after the current three-year agreement with the BBC runs out next May...

David Hopps gives his top-five prediction as the Championship approaches its climax

No rest for Cork in the title chase

DOMINIC CORK, omitted from England's Texaco Trophy squad on the grounds that fatigue has reduced him from a world-class performer to a moderate Test player in little more than a year, can anticipate an even more demanding task over the next few days as he puts his jaded mind and body back behind Derbyshire's championship challenge...

proved that much. 2. Questionable batting quality if Hooper falls. Lord's view: "Damn fine side, Kent. Damn fine county. Damn fine people. Prediction: 265 points, runners-up."

Scoreboard table with columns for County Championship, Division One, and Division Two, listing teams and scores.

Cricket

Table for Texaco Trophy One-Day International Live Commentary, listing match reports and scores for various teams.



Rusedski crashes out in New York, page 13
Europe begins the Ryder campaign, page 14

Hoddle ponders the captaincy, page 14
Carling left in the shadows, page 15

Sports Guardian

Graham rejects City job offer

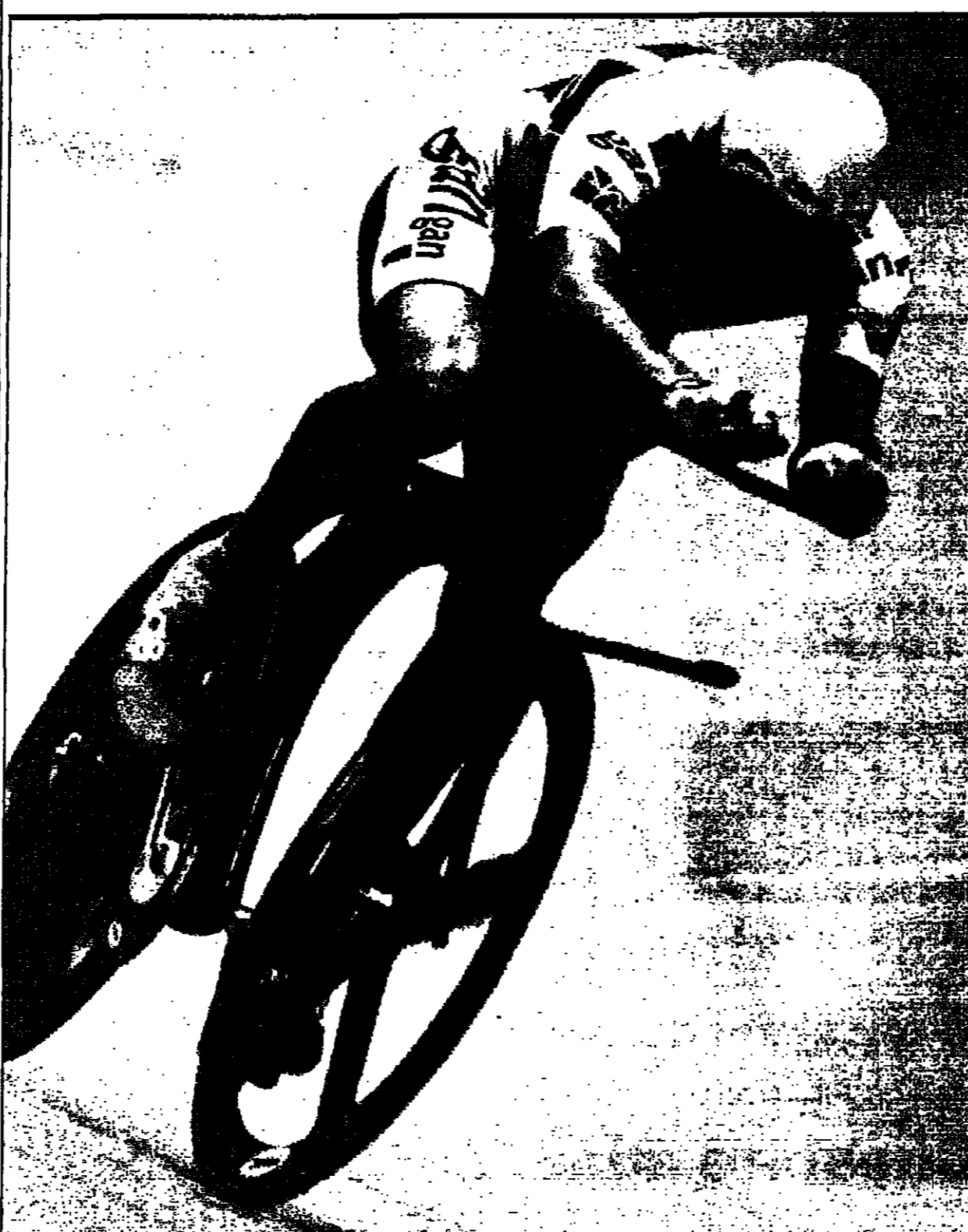
Martin Thorpe on the latest twist in the Maine Road saga

GORGE GRAHAM last night rejected the chance to become manager of Manchester City, leaving Bruce Rioch and Jack Charlton as the front-runners to take over at Maine Road. The former Arsenal boss was the early favourite to replace Alan Ball after admitting on Tuesday that he was attracted by the job. His interest was reciprocated but, after making a series of phone calls to contacts close to the club yesterday, Graham had uncovered so many problems at the club — chief among them lack of money for new players — that he decided against the move north. City's chairman Francis Lee is understood to have contacted Graham late yesterday in the hope of agreeing a deal, only to be told the bad news. Graham's change of mind is surprising given that he had categorised City as the sort of club that would appeal to him. "I would only consider going back with a big club that had real ambition and potential," he said on Tuesday. "City most certainly fit those criteria." But Graham soon realised that he would probably have to sell the crowd's favourite George Kinkaidze to fund the purchase of new players.

Graham was also worried that City's propensity to change managers as soon as things go wrong — 14 in 24 years — might mean he would not get sufficient time to transform the club's fortunes on the pitch. On top of all that he questioned Lee's willingness to refrain from dabbling in team affairs and was put off by the constant rumours of boardroom splits and possible takeovers. Graham's snub is another blow for City's long-suffering fans who want a high-profile manager with a proven track record to lift the team. Rioch, Graham's successor at Arsenal, remains an obvious candidate although there could be complications over compensation following his recent sacking. The two parties are still discussing severance terms but, if Rioch found himself re-employed, Arsenal could argue that he had not lost out to the same degree and seek to reduce the payment. Last night City's directors held an emergency board meeting at which it is believed they discussed the possibility of inviting Charlton to assume control. Although Charlton has shown little or no interest in ending his self-imposed exile from football, Lee recognises that he is one of the few managers in Britain who revels in drawing extraordinary performances from ordinary players.

More soccer, page 14

BOARDMAN SMASHES PURSUIT RECORD



Pursuit of excellence... Chris Boardman stretches for the record at the World Track Championships in Manchester. MAX NASH

Half chance for Carling to hit back



Frank Keating

IN SPITE of Twickenham's comely flanneling — "the selectors are already aware of their qualities" — you do not need to know how to read tea-leaves to realise that Jack Rowell has at last plucked up the courage to hand the drachmed black-spot to Will Carling. Rory Underwood, Dean Richards and Jeremy Guscott, the four stalwart mucksters of England's triumphant recent years. They have each passed their 30th birthday. So have Victor Ubogu, Jon Callard, Andy Robinson and Graham Law, the Bath confabees also omitted from the England squad's opening training sessions, and one fancies that this quartet will have got the message loud and clear that their sponsored Cellnet telephones will not be ringing with good news from Twickenham any more. It was actually got to see some rugby when the smoke clears, it will be interesting to discover how Carling responds to Rowell's almost sacrilegious cheek. His partnership with rugby league's Gary Connolly in the centre for Harlequins will begin next week and is one of the myriad of spectacular prospects to flourish in the new season — if and when the squabbling stops, that is.

Carling welcomed Connolly to London yesterday as "the best centre in Britain". Mind you, the previous day the former England captain had hinted that he might enjoy a run inside Connolly — as a fly-half — this season. Now there's an idea. There the swarthy little thunder-thighs would be able to haunt Rowell and show the manager he had not got rid of his turbulent former skipper that easily. Certainly Carling will be a fixture on both the back pages and the front for a long time to come.

One of his stated reasons for so dramatically tossing in his seals of office as captain at the end of last season was that he believed he would have a far better chance of continuing his international career if he rejoined the ranks. Carling's relief was palpable as he made his last after-dinner speech as captain at the Hilton Hotel banquet following England's Champ-

ionship winning victory against Ireland in March. "Flew, thank the Lord for that," he muttered when told he would no more have to sit at the top table with the black-tied committee buffers. He had been up there since he was a callow 22. Only seven times after his 66 international appearances had he been down-table gazing and guffawing with "the boys" — and those seven times were "so long ago that I can scarcely remember whether or not I was under the table anyway". How strange it is, meanwhile, to salute the end of the rugby union calendar is just about to begin. It was a thrill on Monday to be in the throng at that squat, low-slung and heaving little corrugated crucible at Knowsley Road when St Helens beat Warrington to put one over Wigan, their grand and un-neighbourly tormentors for so long, and become the first club to win rugby league's inaugural summertime championship. The trophy itself, as one might expect with Mr Murdoch's cameras around, was almost as big as little Bobby Goulding, captain of the Saints. But Goulding gleamed more — with pride.

KNOWSLEY Road cannot have had a more significant day since September 2, 1958, when New Zealand began their planned 28-match tour against St Helens. During the match Germany invaded Poland, Mr Chamberlain declared war the following day and within a week the New Zealanders were sailing home. Now, 37 years later, it is rugby league itself which is at battle stations, half still sceptical about the "sell-out" to summer and Sky, those in the other corner acclaiming saviour status for the new, sunnier and less introverted format. In summer, with European soccer and the Olympics Games as rival treats, rugby league would seem to have reinvented itself dramatically well. It certainly seemed that it had at Knowsley Road on Monday.

What must be more worrying to the committed league devotees is the sudden feeling of the hitas being bit, the poaching of stars by the other code. We shall see. The foundations flap about the freely realistic fifth is fun and any day now the hot-air Celts will have to grovel over humble pie. But whether the union game in Britain will become rich to test its new professionalism or bankrupt by Christmas remains to be seen. Watch this space.

'Superman' ride is just a prelude

CHRIS BOARDMAN lopped six seconds off the world 4,000-metre pursuit record in the first round of the World Track Championships at the Manchester velodrome yesterday with a time of 4min 13.35sec. The Wirral-based rider, using the "Superman" position (with arms fully stretched) for the first time in competi-

tion, broke the record set by Italy's Andrea Collinelli at last month's Olympics. "We decided to go for the time in the early round," said the 28-year-old, who should today secure Britain's fourth successive world pursuit title. "After that we could concentrate on winning the title."

Report, page 13

BECKSENTRICS

THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL WORLD OF EUROPE'S FREE THINKERS

EURO STAR OF THE WEEK

LICENSED FOOL

Becksentrics is not alone in its appreciation of some of Europe's quirkier citizens. Belgium's Deshaere has recently bestowed a civic award upon Percy Wilson, 74, who spends every weekend shopping in a monkey dress. Clearly, Belgium expects everyone to do their duty — and do it whilst wearing a gorilla suit.



Belgium has banned camel and ostrich racing on public roads. But a spokesman for the country's local councils was unsure why. "As far as we know, no one has ever tried to race camels or ostriches here before." Still, it is worth passing the law, you never know when it might come in handy.

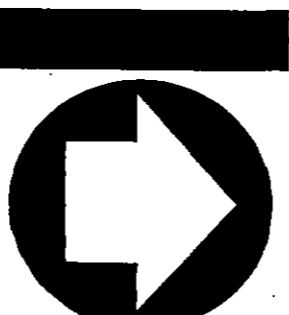
PUPPY LOVE

It was a beautiful occasion. The bride wore lace, the groom a grey tuxedo and at that most touching of moments the happy couple, Mali and Stencyn, turned around and licked each other. For Bethan Gapper, 28, of Ystrad Mynach, Mid Glamorgan, it was a dream come true. She had spent three hundred pounds on this wedding for her two Cocker spaniels, and said she would treasure her memory of it for years to come.

DEATH BECOMES HIM

Death, it has been observed, can be a bit of a downer. And funerals are seldom much fun — unless they are in the hands of Rodney Ford, 56, of Norton, Sheffield. Challenging the age-old wisdom that death be dark, he is marketing an alternative: brightly-coloured coffins in animal shapes of your choice. The sight of Aunt Beryl being carried to a better place, safe in the belly of a psychedelic fish, may bring tears of different kind.

PLAYING BY THEIR OWN RULES

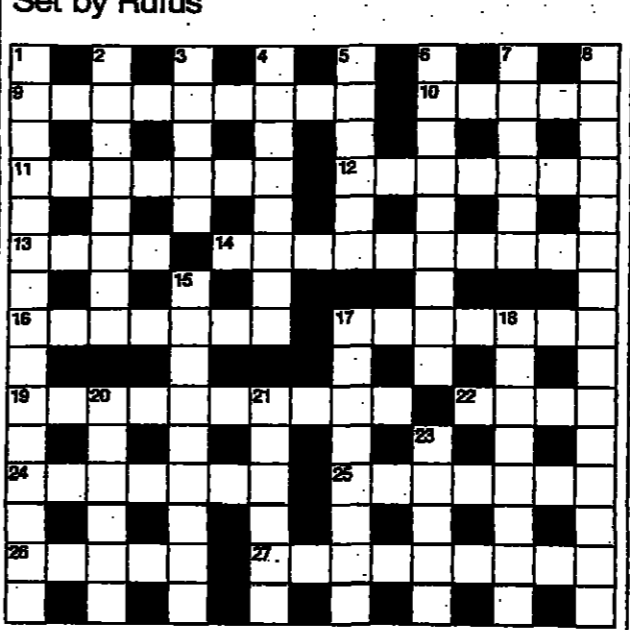


"When you read Levi, you feel like you have become friends with him," says Turturro. "You feel much more human."

G2 page 10

Guardian Crossword No 20,744

Set by Rufus



- Across**
- 9 It's poisonous, thanks to natural mutation (8)
 - 10 Final word from new aide to union-leader (5)
 - 11 Scoring in many games but not tennis (7)
 - 12 They are made to scale (7)
 - 13 Primata seen around Sunday in church (4)
 - 14 Knotty garlic problem? (5,5)
 - 16 Dery order was void (7)
 - 17 Dogfish provides sport in Scotland (7)
 - 19 Meat-ple can be served free (10)
 - 22 Dancing habit of a Bishop (4)
 - 24 Apathy I retain however moved (7)
 - 25 Expression of approval for record return on examination of accounts (7)
- Down**
- 1 Unpleasant words heard during a road hold-up in the past (5,3,7)
 - 2 Disturbing poster seen around the street results in objections (8)
 - 3 One left in dark (5)
 - 4 Use a stop over, a humble dwelling (8)
 - 5 Ballerina didn't finish with a physiologist (6)
 - 6 Dishonest dealer (4-5)
 - 7 How to amuse motorists? Hardly! (8)
 - 8 Gets in the hit parade (4,3,8)
 - 15 Oriental here on business gets summons (9)
 - 17 Stone pinner (8)

- 18 Flood means Aunt Enid has to move (8)
20 Title Father comes up with for an ancestor (6)
21 Pleads, we hear, for approval (6)
23 They're inclined to be dishonest schemes (5)

Solution tomorrow

22 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0901 338 228. Calls cost 35p per min, plus 10p per min at other times. Service supplied by ATS.